THE TIMES

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BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Income tax cut by 2% to 27%

The basic rate of income tax was cut from 29 to 27 per cent. Personal allowances went up in line with inflation of 3.7 per cent taking the single person's allowance up by £90 to £2,425 and the married man's allowance up by £140 to £3,795. The 40 per cent threshold is raised in line with inflation, but the 45 per cent by only £200. Other higher rate thresholds were left unchanged. For a man on average earnings, the changes mean an extra £3 a week and will be implemented on the first pay day after May 17.

PSBR target paves way for lower rates

The Chancellor signalled his intention to keep tight control over state finances by setting a public sector borrowing requirement of £4 billion for 1987-88, £3 billion less than his previous target. The move paves the way for lower interest rates and cheaper mortgages. He aimed to keep the PSBR at around 1 per cent of GDP over the coming years, and forecast growth of 3 per cent this year. A £2½ billion deficit on the balance of payments was expected this year, following a £1 billion deficit in 1986-87.

No increase in petrol prices

Tax on company cars goes up by 10 per cent but there is no change in the fuel scales. Vehicle excise duty on cars, light vans, motor cycles and lorries remains unchanged.

Drink, tobacco unchanged

There was no increase in duty on beer, cider, table wine, sparkling wine, fortified wine or spirits or on cigarettes, pipe tobacco or cigars.

Lead-free petrol down

The tax on unleaded petrol was cut by 5p last night. Its pump price should be no higher than that of four star fuel.

No on-course betting tax

The on-course betting duty for horse and greyhound racing is abolished from March 29. Revenue lost will be recouped by raising gambling machine duty by one quarter.

Oil relief

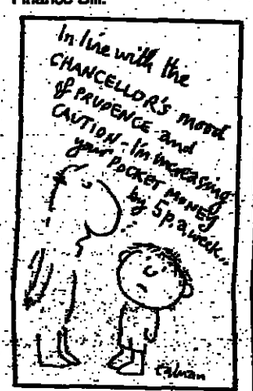
Oil companies may set up to 10 per cent of costs of developing certain new fields against liability for petroleum revenue taxation in existing fields until income exceeds costs. Also they may claim relief for research into UK oil extraction not related to any particular field.

M0 range set at 2% to 6%

Target growth range for narrow money (M0) set at 2 per cent to 6 per cent. No range set for broad money M3. Legislation repealing the Exchange Controls Act to be included in the Finance Bill.

Small firms' cash flow aid

No change in 15 per cent VAT rate. Registration threshold for traders increased ahead of inflation from £20,500 to £21,300. Time limit for applying for registration lengthened from 10 days to 30 days. From October 1, companies with turnover below £250,000 a year will not have to make VAT payments until they have been paid by their creditors. They will also be permitted to make VAT returns annually instead of quarterly. New simpler schemes for small and medium-sized firms.



Inheritance tax reduction

Inheritance tax threshold to be raised from £71,000 to £90,000 to ease burden on small estates where family home is the main asset. Number of tax bands reduced from seven to four. Will lead to cut of one third in estates liable to IHT. Tax abolished for lifetime gifts into "interest in possession" trusts in move aimed at helping family businesses and heritage properties.

Changes on pensions

New tax regime for personal pensions outlined in Green Paper to come into effect on January 4, 1988, three months earlier than planned. Members of company pension schemes will be allowed to make additional voluntary contributions attracting existing tax relief to pension funds outside employers' scheme.

Company tax

Main rate of corporation tax remains unchanged at 35 per cent. Small companies rate of corporation tax and advance corporation tax cut from 29 per cent to 27 per cent.

Capital gains

Retirement relief limit increased from gains of £100,000 to £125,000 from April 6. Annual exempt amount for individuals raised in line with inflation from £6,300 to £6,600.

For charities

Modest extension of VAT relief for charities caring for the disabled or terminally ill or engaged in medical research, first aid and mountain rescue.

Profit gain

Half of profit-related pay, instead of a quarter, to be free of tax up to lower of £3,000 a year or 20 per cent of salary. For a married man on average earnings receiving 5 per cent of his pay in this form, saving worth 1p off basic rate of income tax.

. . . and the cost

After allowing for the effects of inflation, the Chancellor has injected a £2.625 billion boost into the economy. The cut in the basic rate in income tax accounts for £2.2 billion, pegging excise duties and VAT changes £360 million and other changes £95 million. Changes in income tax allowances and thresholds bring in £30 million.

Lawson's £2.6bn handout delights the Tories

The all-options Budget

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday delighted Tory MPs and kept open all the Prime Minister's election options with a Budget which not only lopped the expected 2p off the standard rate of income tax but cut the Government's borrowing by a £3 billion, much more than the City had expected.

It was a Budget clearly designed to keep down prices, drive down interest rates and make it difficult for the Opposition to claim that it represented an irresponsible pre-election giveaway.

In spite of having more available to give away than any Chancellor for 30 years, Mr Lawson handed out no more than £2.6 billion in his tax package. His intention was clearly as much to keep the City calm as to hearten Tory MPs in marginal seats.

"It's a very responsible Budget", he claimed last night, and ministers and Tory MPs were emphasizing the Chancellor's prudence and caution.

The Budget does not push Mrs Thatcher irrevocably into an early election. Mr Lawson, who used to urge the advantages of a 1988 election, has left himself 2p short of his target of reducing the standard rate of income tax to 25 per cent.

He said last night that there was no economic compulsion to go for an early election, although it would "bring to an end this rather ridiculous election atmosphere".

Conservative MPs, although disappointed with the Chancellor's deliberately dead-pan delivery, were well pleased with the balance of his package and they remain convinced that the Government's target is now a June election.

The benefit of yesterday's tax cuts, which will be worth £3 per week to a man on average earnings, will be felt in pay packets from May 17.

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Neil Kinnock, declared that the Budget had nothing to do with the general good and everything to do with an election.

Mr Lawson's speech, one of the shortest on record, will require only a short Finance Bill, which could make rapid progress through the Commons if there is a need to clear the decks for an election.

Ministers regarded the abolition of the Exchange Control Act as a key electoral point. Exchange controls were abolished in Mrs Thatcher's first term, but the Act has remained on the Statute Book.

One lingering fear among Tory election planners has been that if Labour began to improve their opinion poll position during an election there could be panic in the City and a damaging run on the pound because a Labour government could use the old Act to reimpose exchange controls. Once the Act is abolished, any such move would require new legislation.

Announcing the standard-rate tax reduction to 27 per cent, Mr Lawson told MPs that tax allowances and thresholds in general go up in line with inflation, although there is no increase for taxpayers at the highest rate.

The icing on Mr Lawson's Budget bundle was provided by VAT concessions for charities, an increase in the planned tax relief for profit-related pay, a speed-up in the introduction of portable pensions, and extra tax allowances for the over-eighties and the blind.

The Chancellor also heeded the pleas of the racing and bloodstock industry and abolished on-course betting duty.

There was also a widely welcomed package for small businesses, with an increase in the VAT threshold, the introduction of cash accounting for their VAT payments (eliminating their concern over VAT on unpaid bills) and also of annual accounting.

One big surprise was that the Chancellor did not choose to index the excise duties on alcohol and tobacco. But Mr Lawson did introduce a 5p tax differential on the duty on unleaded petrol.

The Chancellor's aim was clearly to keep down the inflation rate, which he told MPs was likely to rise to around 4.5 per cent during the summer, and decline again to 4 per cent by December.

Ministers are confident the Budget will drive down interest rates by at least 1 per cent and push down mortgage rates by a similar margin, in spite of the reluctance of some building societies. Both will benefit the retail price index.

Mr Lawson told MPs "there is every prospect of unemployment continuing to fall during the year", with the non-oil economy set to grow at 3.5 per cent.

Britain's rate of growth of output in manufacturing industry was the highest of all the seven major industrial countries; net overseas assets were the greatest since the war and second only to Japan; and the British economy had undergone the longest period of steady growth it had known since 1945.

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Richard Willson

Britain looks set for growth

By Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, looked as though he would please the financial markets yesterday with a Budget that cut Government borrowing by £3 billion and took 2p off the basic rate of income tax.

He forecast also an attractive economic background to the expected general election of higher growth in the economy coupled with inflation little higher than last year.

Mr Lawson's planned level of borrowing next year is about £1 billion lower than expected in the City at £4 billion. The current year's outturn is likely to be the same.

While the Chancellor reaffirmed his target of 25p in the pound for the basic rate he said that at the present level of 1 per cent of GDP borrowing had now been brought down far enough.

The Chancellor's decision not to raise excise duties on drink, tobacco or petrol, while politically popular, will also help to keep down the rate of inflation. This is forecast at 4 per cent by the end of the year.

Pay packets will reflect the cut in the basic rate on the first pay day after May 17 while the expected cut in mortgage rates could affect payments in April or May.

Mr David Hale, an economist with Goldman Sachs said: "The City will like the Budget a lot. Mr Lawson said the setting for the Budget was "more favourable than for many years". Whereas growth in the British economy had been the lowest among the major European nations during the 1960s and 1970s, it had been the highest during the 1980s.

Growth overall is expected to rise from 2½ per cent last year to 3 per cent.

The Chancellor forecast inflation rising to just over 4½ per cent during the summer but coming back to 4 per cent, or around the present level, by the end of the year.

The balance of payments will be in deficit by £2½ billion, £1 billion more than expected at the time of the Autumn Statement.

Mr Lawson said there was "every prospect of unemployment continuing to fall throughout the year."

Mortgage rate cut of one point 'inevitable'

By Peter Gartland and Amanda Pardoe

Prospects for an imminent cut in mortgage interest rates appear more likely after the City's enthusiastic reaction to yesterday's Budget.

Signals from the money market last night suggested a base rate cut of at least half of one per cent, possibly today, with a further half per cent cut expected within the next month. Prospects for further base rate cuts are underpinned by a PSBR target £1 billion lower than expected for 1987-88.

City economists expect a strong inflow of investment capital from abroad which would boost sterling and ease the way for lower interest rates.

Base rates fell by half of one per cent last week. At that time building societies played a "wait and see" game but they will be unable to resist pressure for mortgage rate cuts if base rates fall any further.

Among the banks the Midland has so far been alone in reducing its mortgage rate.

A firmer oil price of $18.10 a barrel supported the pound which rose 2.3 cents to $1.6025. Almost £3 billion was added to the value of quoted shares on the stock market yesterday with around £800 million of it achieved after the Chancellor finished his speech.

Last week, it announced a 1 per cent drop to 11.50 per cent for both repayment and endowment mortgages to take effect from April 1.

Mr Mike Osborne, chief economist at Kleinwort Grieveson, said last night that a 1 per cent cut in mortgage rates was now inevitable.

The Halifax Building Society, Britain's biggest, said it would be watching base rates closely. Its view was that if there is a half per cent cut in base rates it is questionable how far it will be able to trim the mortgage rate.

Mr Duncan Young, managing director of the Household Mortgage Corporation, expressed his disappointment at the Chancellor's failure to improve the level of mortgage interest relief. Mr Young expects a further cut in interest rates which will bring about a fall in the mortgage rate.

According to Mr Peter Turvey, of the Skipton Building Society, a one and a quarter per cent fall in the mortgage rate to 11 per cent is quite possible.

Bribes rather than jobs, says Labour

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock last night described the Chancellor's statement as a "bribes Budget", which had little to do with the general good and everything to do with the general election.

Mr Kinnock told the House of Commons that the Government had chosen to produce a short-term consumer spurt but the British people wanted long-term investment to build the foundations for future strength.

Labour MPs cheered loudly when he said: "The Government has chosen across-the-board cuts in taxation. The Opposition and the British people want across-the-nation cuts in unemployment."

But Mr Lawson was praised by Conservative MPs for producing a Budget which they felt paved the way for a general election in June, but without being so much of a giveaway as to be counter-productive with the voters.

Although the Conservative reaction in the chamber was less than ecstatic, partly because of the Chancellor's deliberately low-key delivery and long passages of technical detail, and his decision not to produce any big surprises, Mr Lawson was warmly received when he appeared before a meeting of his party's backbench finance committee last night.

Indeed, there was much support for the view put to him by Mr Terence Higgins, chairman of the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee, that it had been prudent not to lower income tax by any more than 2p.

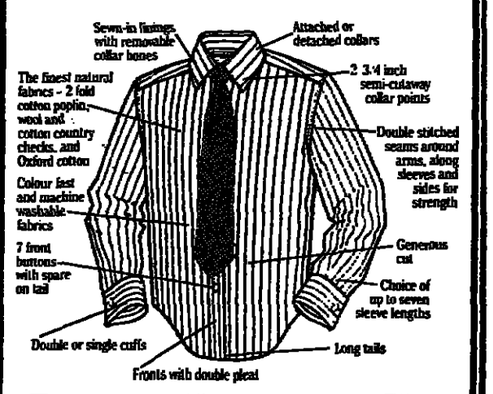
The feeling among senior backbenchers was that Mr Lawson would have been able to achieve his ultimate target of 25p had he wanted, but that he wanted to leave something "in the locker"

Conservative MPs were most pleased by the decision to cut borrowing by £3 billion, first because it could be portrayed as maintaining prudence in the fiscal stance, and second because it will certainly lead to a cut in mortgage rates which, combined with the decision not to increase excise duties, will keep inflation down.

There was some criticism of his failure to do more to raise tax thresholds to help the lower paid, or to emphasize strongly enough the increased help for training.

Mr Kinnock said that instead of spraying Britain with across-the-baord tax cuts, the Chancellor should have used the funds to cure unemployment, stimulate investment, build houses and develop industry.

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Labour message for Reagan

Kinnock shifts cruise stance

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

In what will be seen as an important shift in his party's stance on nuclear defence, Mr Neil Kinnock is planning to tell President Reagan next week that American cruise missiles can stay in Britain under a Labour government pending a deal between the superpowers to remove all intermediate nuclear forces from Europe.

On his second visit to the United States to explain Labour's non-nuclear defence policy and to underline its commitment to Nato, Mr Kinnock will make clear that his party will do nothing to hinder the achievement of an agreement on intermediate nuclear forces for which it has long striven.

His promise not to insist on the immediate removal of cruise in the interests of achieving an agreement on the zero-zero option of no intermediate nuclear missiles in Europe will be received with considerable relief in Washington, where Mr Kinnock sees Mr Reagan on Friday week.

More importantly it will do much to defuse the Tory attack on Labour's unilateralist policies, certain to be one of the central features of the general election campaign.

The decision to spell out Labour's position on cruise has been made necessary by what the Labour leadership sees as the increasing likelihood of a deal on intermediate nuclear forces.

Mr Gorbachov's offer to to drop his insistence, made during the Reykjavik talks last October, that there could be no separate agreement on intermediate nuclear forces without restrictions on American "Star Wars" (Strategic Defence Initiative) research has brought the prospect of a deal much closer, it is felt.

Mr Kinnock will be able to tell Mr Reagan that it was the Labour Party, which was the original proponent of the zero-zero option, under which cruise and Pershing missiles would be removed by the US while the Soviet Union would withdraw its SS 20s from Eastern Europe.

Labour has always pushed for a zero-zero option and it remains opposed to cruise missiles being stationed in Britain.

In another move welcomed in Washington, Mr Kinnock has already made clear that the removal of American bases and weapons from Britain – the part of his policy which the Americans are most unable to stomach – will not be subject to a time limit.

Although it will be argued that there has been no change of policy, it has been widely accepted until now that cruise missiles would be removed speedily under a Labour government. Now Mr Kinnock has opened up the possibility of their remaining in Britain for much longer.

Jury sent to hotel

The jury considering verdicts in the case of three men accused of murdering PC Keith Blakelock during the riots in Tottenham, north London, in October 1985 were sent to a hotel last night after a day considering verdicts.

Right turn

Finland's right-wing parties are in reach of government office for the first time since the war Shift to right, page 7
Leading article, page 11

Four dropped

Four England rugby players – captain Richard Hill, Wade Dooley, Gareth Chilcott and Graham Dawe – have been dropped for the match against Scotland Page 36

Linley hurt

Richard Linley, the National Hunt jockey, dislocated his right shoulder when he rode 25-1 outsider Galas Image to a shock victory in the Arkle Chase at Cheltenham Page 36

Portfolio

- **The £4,000 prize in yesterday's Times Portfolio Gold competition was shared by two readers. Details, page 3.**
- **Portfolio list, page 21.**

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Jenkins joins spy book row

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Mr Roy Jenkins stepped dramatically into the Peter Wright spy-book controversy yesterday by supporting claims that there had never been an investigation into alleged attempts by MI5 to destabilize the Wilson Government.

He backed a call by Mr Merlyn Rees, the Labour Home Secretary who succeeded him, for a formal inquiry, and said that Mrs Thatcher now had "a clear duty" to investigate elements of the security services in the mid-1970s.

Mrs Thatcher, speaking during Prime Minister's questions, refused to institute an inquiry, saying she had no responsibility for such matters. She had nothing to add to a statement by Mr James Callaghan in 1977 that there were no grounds to do so.

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NEWS SUMMARY

Rover men vote to give up jobs

Austin Rover is making 100 toolmakers redundant after the men voted to take industrial action in support of the job losses rather than take less skilled work temporarily (Craig Seton writes).

The company said it had asked the Amalgamated Engineering Union (AEU) to allow a hundred £250-a-week toolmakers at its plant at Cowley, Oxford, to take jobs on the assembly line for seven months while the demand for their skills was slack.

"The men were not going to lose financially and we guaranteed they would return to the tool-room at a specified date when the workload increased later this year", the company said.

BT staff in court

Nineteen British Telecom operators accused of taking part in a £1 million telephone calls fraud appeared at Guildhall Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

The accused are said to have placed "irregular" overseas calls from Telecom's international exchange at Wren House, central London. They all face one specimen charge of false accounting. The operators were all granted unconditional bail.

Colliery to shut

Newstead Colliery, a 113-year-old pit near Mansfield, in Nottinghamshire, employing 392 men, will cease production this week after a vote by miners to accept redundancy terms.

Members of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers voted 163-136 for the closure in a ballot boycotted by the National Union of Mineworkers.

British Coal had extended the date by which the miners could qualify for "generous" redundancy.

Boy's death inquiry

An inquiry was being held yesterday into how a boy aged 13 was killed in a road accident in the early hours of the morning when he was supposed to be in council care.

John Sylvester was taken into care by Nottinghamshire County Council last year but was wandering the streets of Nottingham alone early on Sunday morning when he was hit by a car and killed. A man later came forward and was questioned by police. Announcing the inquiry, Mrs Joan Taylor, social services chairman, said yesterday: "I am extremely concerned about the incident".

Stopping the week



Richard Baker is leaving BBC Radio 4's Start the Week programme for a year's sabbatical.

Mr Baker, who celebrates the seventeenth birthday of the programme on April 6, said he felt it was time for a break after presenting more than 800 editions.

"We've had our triumphs, and even a few disasters, but it's always been stimulating", he said. He will continue his other BBC radio work.

Shipbuilding slump

Evidence of the continuing slump in demand for ships is disclosed today in the Annual Summary of Merchant Ships Completed, published by Lloyds Register of Shipping.

It shows that in 1986 there were 1,634 ships of 16.8 million gross tons completed worldwide, a reduction of 1.3 million tons. Japan and South Korea accounted for 70 per cent of the tonnage.

The United Kingdom produced only 0.59 per cent of total tonnage, completing 36 ships of almost 99,000 tons, compared with more than one million tons 10 years ago.

Wales TUC on road to independence

A leading trades union is going to increase its demands for autonomy for the Wales TUC.

The move for independence from the TUC nationally will be led by Mr George Wright, the Welsh general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, at the Wales TUC's annual conference next month.

Mr Wright plans to use a motion on Japanese companies to argue that recent disputes over single-union recognition in Wales have highlighted failures in the TUC's Bridlington Agreement.

He wants autonomy along the lines of the Scottish TUC and the Irish Congress of Unions.

"We believe that the working of the Bridlington Agreement would be improved if the Wales TUC was autonomous and had the power to deal with the first stage of disputes", he said.

Mr Wright, who was the first general secretary of the Wales TUC when it was formed in 1973, also believes that the creation of its own international committee would give it more opportunities to help to attract investment to Wales.

A delegation from its general purposes committee will meet the TUC's inner cabinet, the finance and general purposes committee, on Monday in a final attempt to win agreement on autonomy, but it has already been accepted in Wales that the proposal will be rejected.

"We will then have to report back to our conference in April and seek guidance on the next move", Mr Wright said.

Motions calling for autonomy were passed overwhelmingly at both the 1985 and 1986 conferences.

"Wales has her own identity, culture and arm of government. We have to deal directly with the Welsh Office but, sadly, people in London have very little regard for our different situation", Mr Wright said.

Autonomy would also mean the Wales TUC being funded directly by affiliated unions, but some trades union leaders in Wales believe that the change would make very little difference.

"If the move meant improved resources, staffing, funding and finance it might be worth considering", one official said. "But those questions haven't even been examined.

Baker salutes teachers who fight to keep schools open

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, claimed yesterday that many teachers are working hard to keep schools open, in spite of widespread strike action by the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

He saluted the "sensible decision" of members of the third largest union, the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association (AMMA), not to hold a half-day strike in protest against the Government's imposed pay and conditions settlement.

In a 73 per cent turn out, the 88,000 members of AMMA rejected their leadership's call for a single half-day strike by 57.2 per cent, with a majority of nearly 9,000.

The vote is an embarrassing blow for the union's executive, but Mr Peter Smith, the deputy general secretary, said: "Mr Baker can take little comfort from the fact that 42 per cent of the most moderate union voted for strike action".

Mr Baker said: "Of all the teachers balloted, less than half have endorsed the call for strike action. Many teachers have been working normally and I salute their efforts to keep the schools open.

"The time has come for the leaders of the NUT and NAS/UWT to re-think their tactics."

The AMMA is to spend £50,000 on a national press advertising campaign stressing the removal of teachers' negotiating rights.

Some teachers' leaders believe that the present series of strikes, in which 240,000 teachers have disrupted the education of 4,800,067 children since last Wednesday, will exhaust teachers' willingness to leave classrooms.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "The message coming back from my members is that teachers are very unhappy at the prospect of a long period of disruption stretching into next term and beyond".

An education authority today begins High Court action for damages against a teaching union which went on strike.

The claim by the Hereford and Worcester County Council against the NAS/UWT is the first case in which an authority has sued a teaching union for taking industrial action.

The council gave the union 28 days to pay compensation of £48,000 for a half-day stoppage last November. The union had not settled by the deadline yesterday.

● The left-wing north London borough of Brent has chosen a new head of education, who will start a year after his predecessor resigned amid allegations of political interference.

Mr Michael Stoten, aged 40, senior assistant director of education for Coventry, succeeds Mr Adrian Parsons, who now works for the Conservative borough of Solihull, West Midlands.

When Mr Parsons resigned nine months ago Conservative councillors accused the ruling Labour group of "making his life impossible" by blocking and criticizing his work.



The new Liberal MP for Truro, Mr Matthew Taylor, aged 24, with party leader Mr David Steel before taking his seat at Westminster yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Footballer is fined for assault

Celtic and Scotland footballer Maurice "Mo" Johnston was yesterday fined £500 for assaulting a hairdresser in a scuffle at a Glasgow discotheque last November.

Johnston, aged 23, of Mount Vernon, Glasgow, was found guilty at the end of a two-day trial at Glasgow Sheriff Court.

George Lynch, aged 27, of Balornock, Glasgow, described in court as Johnston's "minder", was also found guilty and fined £250 for assaulting Mr Scott Leslie, a policeman's son.

Sheriff Archibald Bell, QC, told Johnston he knew footballers had difficulties because they were in the public eye, but he added: "The players who are remembered over the years are the ones who are disciplined not only on the field, but off it".

The footballer had wandered from the high standards expected of someone in his position. But he had been sober and not looking for trouble.

The assault took place when Johnston, Lynch and Celtic striker Alan McInally visited the Mardi Gras discotheque in Dunlop Street.

The manager showed them upstairs to where an eighteenth birthday party was in full swing. Several guests objected to the presence of the footballers, thinking they had gatecrashed the party and Mr Leslie, aged 19, told Johnston to leave.

Lynch said his head had clashed with Mr Leslie's after the hairdresser had swung a kick.

Both the accused men denied the charges and claimed they were acting in self-defence.

Lynch said: "I turned round to stop him and there was a clash of heads." He denied that he had deliberately butted Mr Leslie in the face.

Later Johnston punched Leslie in the eye, fracturing his cheekbone. Johnston damaged his hand so badly it had to be put in plaster.

Sheriff Bell said that the longer Lynch remained in the witness box the less credible he appeared.

He was satisfied that Johnston had struck Leslie "one savage blow".

INLA man buried in volley of words

By Richard Ford

The internecine feud within the Irish National Liberation Army accompanied its latest victim to his grave yesterday.

Even in death, Gerard Steenson knew little peace. A war of words continued as his family mourned at the graveside. A close colleague accused two former friends in the organization, now leading figures in an opposing faction, of being "Johnny-come-latelies" to the movement who had vilified and then assassinated Mr Steenson.

Mr Jimmy Brown, who was released from jail with the dead man last December, promised in an oration that Mr Steenson's assassination would not deter the army council faction of the INLA from its policy of dissolving the republican paramilitary group.

He accused people with criminal self-interest of murdering Mr Steenson, aged 29, a former baker's asssistant, who was shot dead with a friend as he drove through a republican stronghold in west Belfast on Sunday.

The police and Army mounted a big security operation to prevent any display of paramilitary trappings as the cortège was taken along Falls Road to Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, where Mr Steenson was buried in a private grave away from the INLA plot.

Mr Steenson's conviction for six murders and 61 other offences was quashed by the Court of Appeal.

His father told police there would be no paramilitary display or trouble at the funeral, although friends claimed that a black beret and gloves were placed in the coffin before it left the house. On the way to the funeral the coffin was accompanied by more than 20 Land Rovers and dozens of police officers.

Such is the fear of being identified with one faction or the other in the disintegrating INLA that fewer than 100 people walked behind the coffin, which was draped in the Starry Plough flag of the Irish Republican Socialist Party.

The feud between the army council faction and the general headquarters faction, which opposes the dissolution of the INLA, has created a climate of fear throughout west Belfast, with many people once associated with the movement on the run and away from their homes.

Although both sides have safe houses the organization is so small and its members have known each other very well, that it is proving impossible to keep movements around nationalist areas secret.

Many believe the security forces secretly welcome the bloodshed as it is removing dedicated terrorists from the streets.

Gales threaten efforts to right stricken ferry

By David Sapstead

Gales expected to sweep across the Channel today could provide the first serious setback to the operation to right the stricken ferry, Herald of Free Enterprise.

North-westerly winds up to 40mph are forecast for the area and it is feared that they could persist for several days.

Six of the 16 steel tubes, which will anchor the barges involved in pulling the vessel upright, have so far been sunk into the seabed.

The Dutch salvage team said yesterday that it was necessary to sink two of the tubes a day to meet the target date of the lifting operation of between March 27-30.

On Monday, work had to be called off for several hours because of high winds but, despite that, the operation has continued to run to schedule.

● A single centre has been set up at Dover to deal with insurance claims.

Richards Hogg International, reputedly the world's largest marine insurance adjusting partnership, said that it had been appointed to act alongside Townsend Thoresen in handling claims.

Fears over local planning

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Proposals for big changes to the planning system, including the abolition of structure plans, would "inevitably lead to greater central control, with important strategic county issues no longer being included", according to the National Association of Local Councils.

The association, which represents 7,500 town, parish and community councils in England and Wales, says the Government's proposals would take away local powers by removing the structure plan stage so that no planning issues would be dealt with at a higher level than district councils.

It agrees that the present system is not working well, but does not believe that the proposed upheaval would make it work better.

The association suggests that the lack of confidence by councils in the present system of development plans, coupled with delays at the Department of the Environment, could be rectified easily.

It wants to see county structure plans continuing everywhere in the country, with local or district plans projected as necessary, taking account of local opinion. National planning policies laid down by the Department of the Environment should be cut to the minimum, allowing local government to get on with the job.

County authorities would take any government statements into account when making their plans, and county plans should be simpler and shorter, regularly updated, and clearly understood by non-professionals.

If proposals for rural conservation are implemented, special control over development should apply, as it does to existing conservation areas.

More risk of injury in small companies

By Ronald Faux, Employment Affairs Correspondent

People working in small manufacturing companies run a higher risk of being seriously injured than those in large firms, according to the Health and Safety Commission.

As the number of small firms increases, the commission says there is worrying evidence that even more people could be killed or injured at work during the next few years.

Already the indications are that there is a 50 per cent higher chance of suffering a serious accident for people working in manufacturing firms employing fewer than 100.

Reports made to the commission show that each year 500 people are killed and 12,000 seriously injured in accidents at work. Another 400,000 injuries are also recorded.

Dr Cedric Thomas, chairman of the commission's small firms working group, said that they were anxious for small businesses to survive and prosper. But he said that in a small firm a serious accident to a key member of staff could mean more than just pain and sorrow: it could mean that the entire enterprise foundered.

"Sound health and safety provision should be looked on as an insurance policy on which the premiums should not be grudgingly paid", he said.

Brent ban on papers 'deceitful'

Labour-controlled Brent council was accused in the High Court yesterday of deceit and unlawful conduct in banning *The Times* and *The Sun* from its public libraries.

Brent, which claims to have lifted the ban, is fighting the attempt by Mr Rupert Murdoch, the publisher, to order the council to stock *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*.

Mr Anthony Lester, QC, for the newspapers, and Mr Hugo Reading, a Brent ratepayer, told Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Mann that the ban on the Wapping-produced papers was imposed last June.

Brent claimed it was because some of the publications contained "racist and sexist" material which would have been in conflict with its duties under the Race Relations Act.

But Mr Antony Whitaker, legal manager for *The Times*, said in a sworn statement that it had nothing to do with race relations but was obviously a gesture in support of print workers.

Mr Lester said more than 30 other Labour-controlled local authorities, who had imposed bans, had now lifted them.

The exception was Brent, "which has behaved with such persistent obstinacy to maintain the ban, and, I'm sorry to say, such clumsy deceit in camouflaging its unlawful conduct as to have made it necessary to apply for judicial review to secure its compliance with the rule of law".

It was believed the ban had been lifted but on Monday Mr Reading discovered that nothing had changed in his local library with the papers still not available.

Mr Philip Engelman, for Brent, said the ban had been rescinded with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* being kept at the two main libraries as before. The choice of papers was left to the discretion of librarians at the other 11 borough libraries.

The case was adjourned until tomorrow to allow Brent to prepare its defence.

Africans fly in for education

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The Government is bringing 80 black South African teenagers to Britain by air next month to begin a four-and-a-half-year programme of further and higher education at public expense.

Another 320 students should follow during the next four years.

The scheme is the most elaborate of its kind that the Government has undertaken. It will cost more than £8.5 million.

All the students, most of whom are aged 18 or 19, have a South African school-leaving qualification equivalent to O levels. They will spend their first 15 months at one of five further education colleges studying for A levels after which they will apply for university entrance.

They were recruited inside South Africa by the Educational Opportunities Council, an organization of black educationists which is funded by the US government.

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Fears grow over threat of Aids to prisoners

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Fears are growing that Aids could spread unchecked through Britain's prisons unless preventive measures are implemented as a matter of urgency.

The most specific warning to date was delivered yesterday by the watchdog body for one of the largest jails in London, which expresssed concern that no measures have yet been suggested to prevent the spread of the virus in prison.

"There are on normal location significant numbers from high risk groups – intravenous drug users and homosexuals – creating a threat which the authorities will have to face", the annual report of the Board of Visitors for Wandsworth prison says.

"There may be pressure from some quarters for the compulsory blood-testing of all men sentenced to prison; a highly disturbing prospect", the report says.

"Could the danger mean an end to the sharing of cells, forcing government to seek ways of quickly reducing the prison population? The urgent consideration of the issues is necessary."

The Prison Department said yesterday: "The Board of Visitors report will be considered by the Home Secretary. Boards are appointed by the Home Secretary to report to him. We are fully aware of the risks of hepatitis and Aids within the prison system."

The board expressed "considerable concern" about the risk of the spread of infectious hepatitis from prisoners not identified as carriers, in view of the poor standards of hygiene and sanitation.

Prisoners who are HIV antibody positive and those with anti-bodies to Hepatitis B, are segregated in Wandsworth on a special landing.

The population of the landing on February 21 was made up of 17 possible hepatitis carriers and one prisoner who was anti-body positive for Aids.

The board says that seven of the 17 were refusing to be tested, six were awaiting results, and two inmates from the landing in the hospital wing were highly infectious.

The board is also concerned about other dangers to the health of prisoners. Although the establishment has been lucky so far, in that there has been no serious incident of infection or food poisoning, the risks are clear, the report says.

Prisoners frequently complain about infestation by cockroaches, mice and rats, particularly in the segregation unit. The Prison Officers' Association has also expressed its concern. The board understands that money will be available to take special measures.

"The problem of infestation must, of course, take on a particularly serious aspect when seen in the context of the general lack of cleanliness in the prison."

Much as the governor and the regional director would like to see improvements, the resources are simply not available to them, the report says.



Nearly 200 wives of the men of the Royal Irish Rangers yesterday took part in the St Patrick's Day parade at Connaught barracks, Dover, and received shamrocks "in lieu" of their husbands who have just left on a four-month tour of duty in the Falklands (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Portfolio Gold

Winner is likely to buy car

Two readers shared yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize of £4,000.

Mrs Martha Baker, aged 36, an administrative assistant to the principal of the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, said she felt it was about time she won, considering how long she had played!

"I have never missed a game", Mrs Baker said, "and on quite a few occasions came within a whisker of winning. So you can imagine how pleased I feel."

Mrs Baker, who lives in Lightwater, Surrey, is thinking of spending the money on a new car for her husband.

"It would make a marvellous anniversary present, that I could use as well."

The second winner was Mr Bolitho, a pensioner, who lives in Cotham, Bristol.

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, *The Times*, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ

Blood bank staff walk out

The medical staff of the private blood bank set up by two businessmen in Gloucester has walked out (Our Social Services Correspondent writes).

Both the medical adviser, consultant haematologist Dr James Sharpe, and the technical director in charge of the laboratory, Mr David Ralph, have left the centre. It was set up by two London property developers, Mr Jonathan Lister and Mr Peter Arthur, in January to store the blood of those who fear contracting Aids through transfusions of other people's blood.

Dr Sharpe, a consultant haematologist who works at several London private clinics, said he decided to leave because the owners were not prepared to accept professional advice.

Dr Sharpe denied reports that blood had already been collected and said that the laboratories did not have appropriate facilities to start the service.

Mr Ralph, a former laboratory technician and manager in the Navy, said the idea of the centre was a good one. "They did not want us running the show, but if it is a medical operation it should be run by medical staff rather than businessmen."

The owners, who were unavailable for comment yesterday, have approached Dr Keith Rogers, director of the South London Blood Transfusion Service, to act as an adviser. Yesterday Dr Rogers said he had told the owners that they would have to appoint new medical staff before he would consider any involvement.

Brasserie must pay £8,000 to manager

The manager of a restaurant, whose customers include rock stars, was unfairly dismissed after he allowed customers to be interviewed on television about Aids, a tribunal ruled yesterday.

Mr Christopher Waud, chairman of the tribunal, in Chelsea, told Vittle Inns, the owners of the Soho Brasserie, to agree a maximum compensation payment of more than £8,000.

Mr Andrew Peters, aged 28, of Donaldson Road, Kilburn, north-west London, was dismissed for gross misconduct on October 16 last year for allowing Thames TV to conduct interviews.

Despite the brasserie being elected Brasserie of the Year by *The Times* food critic, and Mr Peters having worked there for almost two years, Vittle Inns gave him only one hour in which to appeal.

Mr David Fothergill, for Vittle Inns, said Mr Peters should have sought permission from head office.

Virgin blocks sale of topless record cover

Thousands of record albums of the soundtrack of Ken Russell's controversial film *Gothic*, which feature the bare breasts of actress Myriam Cyr, are to be withdrawn from sale.

The move is being taken by Virgin Records after complaints by Miss Cyr's agent.

The offending photograph, on the album by singer Thomas Dolby, shows the actress, aged 24, playing the part of poet Lord Byron's mistress.

Experts agreed on girl's sterilization

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Medical experts believed that the girl aged 17 in the sterilization court case was at risk of becoming pregnant because of her growing sexual awareness.

Sunderland borough council, which had the girl in its care, said yesterday: "The problem of a potential pregnancy arose and caused some concern".

The girl was examined by a gynaecologist, a psychologist and a general practitioner who reported their findings, together with the opinions of social workers in charge of her case.

Mr Roy Parker, assistant director of social services for Sunderland, said: "The unanimous view was that sterilization should be recommended to the High Court since other forms of contraception were not viable on medical grounds.

"The mother of the child fully supported that decision and has done so ever since."

The council would not elaborate on the sexual history of the girl yesterday. But she is understood to have undergone a pregnancy test last year, with negative results, after evidence suggesting she had been involved in sexual activity came to the attention of social workers.

Contraceptive pills were ruled out because of their potential reaction with other drugs the girl was taking to control both epileptic fits and mood changes associated with menstruation.

In addition, the girl was known to refuse medication. The idea that the contraceptive pills could be disguised as sweets was considered but discarded because she was prone to outbursts of aggressive and violent behaviour and could have thrown them away.

Other forms of contraception, including intra-uterine devices were also considered unsuitable because of the girl's medical condition and behaviour.

The girl was taken into care in 1973, when she was four years old, and was regularly examined medically.

Mr Parker said in a statement yesterday that the most appropriate action to protect her best interests was to make her a ward of court. "This was done last year and effectively placed any important decision upon her welfare in the hands of the High Court."

In January of this year the court examined principal witnesses. An independent guardian, the Official Solicitor, was appointed by the court to represent the interests of the girl.

Mr Parker said: "He appealed against the decision of the court to consent to sterilization. This action, with which the council fully concurred, was taken in order to clarify the legal situation."

Doctor 'rude and uncaring'

A hospital doctor called another doctor "a big fairy", a "poof" and a "coon", frequently criticized staff and was rude to patients during her first job, a General Medical Council hearing was told yesterday.

Dr Jennifer Colman-Archer, aged 43, is accused of serious professional misconduct.

Mr Andrew Muir, for the general council, claimed she:

- Refused to see a patient who had suffered a cardiac arrest.
- Accused a doctor of being "queer" and professionally useless.
- Told a woman patient who was complaining of chest pains and having difficulty breathing to "stop making that noise" and said she could not treat her until she became quiet.

Dr Colman-Archer, a Cambridge medical graduate whose address was given as care of the Royal Bank of Scotland, Queen's Street, Norwich, was provisionally registered as a doctor in 1984.

The offences alleged at yesterday's hearing of the professional conduct committee were said to have happened that year at James Paget Hospital, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, and in 1985 at King's Mill Hospital, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Mr Muir said: "This doctor was aggressive, rude and critical towards her colleagues and insensitive and uncaring towards her patients".

Mr Julian Sampson, consultant surgeon at the James Paget Hospital, said he had interviewed Dr Colman-Archer for her job. "She told me she had been a stockman working on her parents' farm. She was obviously a mature student in every sense of the word. She said she had been to night school to get A levels in order to become a medical student."

But within three days of starting work she began to complain. She refused to do rectum and vaginal examinations. Her work was not up to the standard he required.

Dr Colman-Archer also faces disciplinary action by the GMC over three driving offences including driving with excess alcohol and driving while disqualified.

The hearing continues today.

Campaigners in attack on conditions at circus

Animal rights campaigners yesterday accused Lord Delfont's First Leisure Corporation of operating an "animal concentration camp" at Blackpool Tower Circus.

But Lord Delfont denied that the animals were kept in poor conditions and said he would not close the circus.

About a dozen campaigners had bought shares in the corporation so they could protest at yesterday's annual shareholders' meeting in London.

They spoke of "animal holocausts" and an "animal Belsen" at the circus, operated under licence by Jays Entertainments.

Lord Delfont, who said his wife was active in the RSPCA, told the meeting: "I'm happy that everything is in good order". But he promised to listen to complaints.

During the meeting, Miss Philomena French, a Liberal Lancashire county councillor, said she was worried about animals dying in a fire. She would take the matter to the Association of County Councils and to Parliament to get the law on circus animals changed.

Mr James Naylor, First Entertainment's joint group managing director, said fire equipment in the basement was sufficient.

He said that 200,000 people a year paid to see the animals and the circus had a clean bill of health.

Black church to join council

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The British Council of Churches is expected to admit to full membership its first church of West Indian origin.

The membership application from the New Testament Assembly, a pentecostal church founded among immigrants 25 years ago, will be dealt with later this month.

It is the first fruit of a relationship the British Council of Churches has been building with the many black (sometimes called "black-led") churches in Britain. These have hitherto stood apart from the long-established mainly white churches.

The council represents all the major mainstream denominations in Britain with the exception of the Roman Catholic Church, with which it nevertheless has a close relationship. Its president is the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Several mainly African churches already have associate member status, but the great majority of black churches draw their members from people of West Indian origin.

The New Testament Assembly has 2,300 members and some 19 church buildings in England, and also has members overseas. Its leader is the Rev Melvin Powell, who is expected to be its representative to the council.

Talks are also taking place with a view to a membership application from some other black churches. A membership application has also been received from three of the small Orthodox communities in Britain.



Severiano Ballesteros. A strong mind is his secret. A strong watch is his choice.

The maverick of the golf course – words that summed up Severiano Ballesteros when he first appeared on the leader boards.

They still do. But now a new maturity invests his game. The youngest-ever winner of the British Open this century, twice winner of the American Masters, the winner of countless international tournaments, he has now won his second British Open.

And he did it because of a new awareness: when to attack a course, when to treat it with caution.

He is now probably one of the most breathtaking stroke players in the game, his genius and flair being supported by immense concentration. "If I lose concentration, I lose the hole."

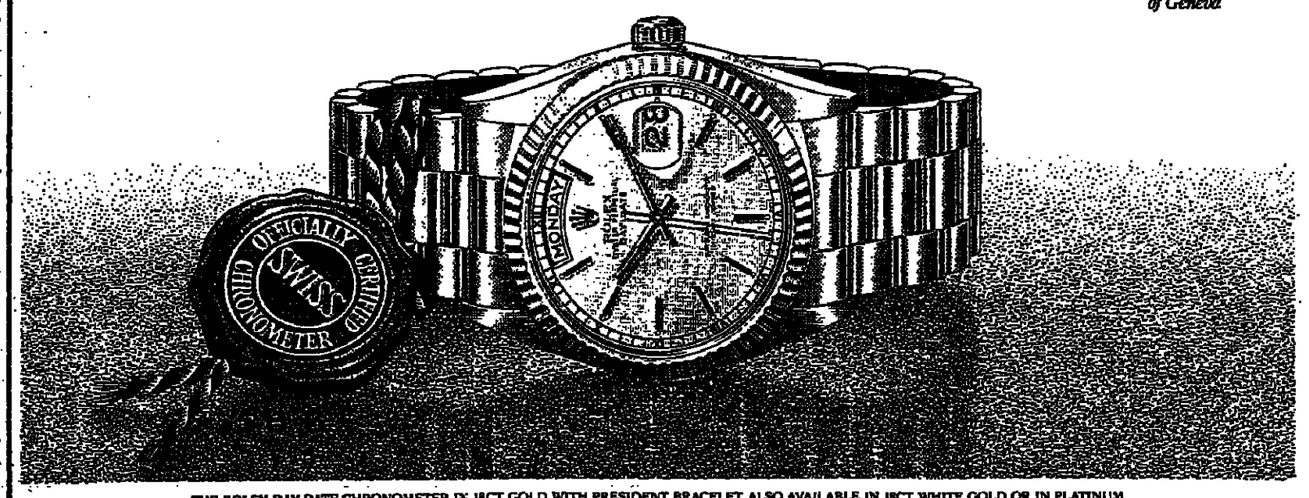
Since Seve was nine years old, practising clandestine golf strokes after hours on his home Pedrena golf course, his sheer mental stamina has driven him on. Indeed, when someone asked him recently what he thought was the most important characteristic of a would-be champion, Ballesteros said promptly, "A strong mind."

His watch complements his single-minded search for perfection and superiority. A Rolex Day-Date. Self-winding with day and date display.

"It's a very strong watch," he says. "No water or sand can get in to it at all. And you know what? Every time I take a swing I'm winding it up."

His undisguised display of triumph after the 18th hole at St. Andrews in 1984 was a touch of the swashbuckling Severiano Ballesteros bubbling to the surface. Strength, stamina and precision had kept him at the top. Just like his Rolex.

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Lord Mayor helps to bury Liverpool's Militant era

By Peter Davenport

Liberal councillors who have taken over the running of Liverpool yesterday signalled their determination to rid the city of its legacy of Militant control by reinstating the office of Lord Mayor.

The position, dating back 90 years, was abolished four years ago by Mr Derek Hatton and his colleagues as their first act on coming to power. They regarded the post as irrelevant and substituted it with a chairman.

Yesterday at a stormy meeting in the Town Hall, Lady Jones, the wife of the Liberal leader on the council, Sir Trevor Jones, was elected to the office and will serve until the local elections in May.

It was a decision that brought widely differing reactions from the political parties in the chamber, where the seats of the 47 Labour councillors disqualified from office last week remained empty.

Mr Paul Storey, a Liberal councillor who moved the nomination, said: "I believe that this city needs to repair its image and the installation of Lord Mayor is a first step along that road".

The Tory leader, Mr Chris Hallows, said it signalled that the city was returning to normality.

But the 11 Labour councillors not involved in the rate rebellion and who remain in office were opposed to the move and tried unsuccessfully to have the meeting adjourned until after the local elections.

Mr Keva Coombes, Labour councillor, said: "This will not build one house, not empty one more dustbin and not give an extra hour's education to one child. It will not mean a single thing as far as the reality of people's daily lives in this city is concerned."

Although Lady Jones was able to wear the chain of office yesterday the other trappings traditionally available to the Lord Mayor are no longer there.

The Labour administration sold the mayoral Rolls-Royce to a local undertaker.

Lady Jones, who has held the office once before and will not be taking up the £1,500 allowance to which she would be entitled for the duration of her time in the post, was undaunted by Labour antics, which members included refusing to stand for her entrance to the chamber and remaining seated when half a dozen former holders of the office went in.

Yesterday's ceremony was the first public display of the new political reality in Liverpool, but behind the scenes Liberal councillors are preparing an emergency package to correct the financial crisis they say they have inherited

They are also reviewing the positions of officials and council employees appointed by Militant.

Many of their proposals will be put before a council meeting next week. After the disqualification of the rebel Labour councillors, the breakdown of the council is now 37 Liberal Alliance, 11 Labour, and seven Tories.

100-year campaign for the consumer

By Howard Foster

The battle by the Consumers' Association against the unsafe, the unjust and the unreliable could become a hundred years' war, the organization's director says today.

The association, despite a 30-yearcrusade, is still finding dangerous goods for sale and restrictive practices which result in high prices.

Mr Peter Goldman, the director, says: "Campaigns have exposed dangerous products and unfair practices and led to significant changes in the law. But there is still plenty of work left to do."

Some consumers still faced drawn-out fights to get the compensation they deserve when hurt by defective goods: "Against these evils the fight goes on", Mr Goldman says.

The Consumers' Association, which has charitable status, hopes to recruit its one millionth member in 1987.

From small beginnings in 1957, when its founder members worked from a converted garage in the East End of London and gave advice to its magazine subscribers on which kettle or scouring powder to buy, the association has become a multi-million pound business.

With income approaching £30 million a year and with 400 staff to work on the consumers' behalf, the organization has been able to extend its operations to advising Third World countries on products.

Consumer legislation such as the Unsolicited Goods and Services Act, 1971, came into force through the association's lobbying. The charity also produces information for motorists, car buyers, holidaymakers, gardeners and winedrinkers.



Mr Tim Laing, Lord of the Manor of Hatherleigh, with some of the villagers serving on his jury (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Lord Tim finds 12 good men and true

By Alan Hamilton

Hatherleigh, with a population of 1,000, is as trim a little town as you could hope to stumble upon, its houses of thatch and wash folded into the South Devon hills as cream in a pudding.

Tranquility notwithstanding, the Lord of the Manor of Hatherleigh will next week summon the 12 jurors of his ancient manorial court leet to the Town Hall to appoint an ale taster, a scavenger, a constable and a tithingman.

Lords of the manor have dispensed justice and collected tithes through their annual court leets from Saxon times, but ever since the Norman Conquest their authority was gradually whittled away until finally laid to rest by a land ownership law of 1922.

Mr Tim Laing, Lord of Manor of Hatherleigh, is an unprepossessing fellow who lives in a bungalow and for a living prints dance tickets and wedding hymn sheets.

He would not, however, dream of selling his birthright, which descended to him from a distant ancestor, who bought it from someone who bought it from the Abbot of Tavistock.

So last week Mr Laing, long since stripped of his *droit de seigneur* and his power to fine felons, exercised almost his last residual right and appointed 12 jurors to his court.

This week in Hatherleigh, a place so law-abiding that even the police station has moved seven miles away to Okehampton, the main issue is the threatened closure of the town's only supermarket.

The owners say it is not profitable enough, and there is not much the Court Leet of the Lord of the Manor of Hatherleigh can do in the face of naked commerce. Now, if they had been selling bad ale, or piling dunghills in the street . . . .

Mobile divisions on telephone lines

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

Britain's two mobile telephone operators are in dispute over plans to alleviate congestion by making more channels available to users of cellular communications equipment.

Mr Colin Davis, managing director of Cellnet, the joint venture between British Telecom and Securicor, yesterday accused its rival, Racal Vodafone, of seeking to sabotage a proposed pan-European network to increase the capacity of its domestic system.

Cellnet has protested about the plan to the Department of Trade and Industry and the Office of Telecommunications. The Government is expected to rule on the dispute within a few weeks.

Racal Vodafone, a subsidiary of Racal Electronics, described Cellnet's protests as groundless, and said it wants to use the reserved channels on a temporary basis only.

The dispute centres on 400 radio telephone channels being held in reserve until a new cellular system is introduced in the early 1990s which will allow subscribers in any European country to use their equipment in any other country.

Cellnet claims that those channels should be left fallow to avoid delaying the introduction of the pan-European service. It is investing £16 million in alternative technical arrangements to increase the availability of channels to its 67,000 customers, and asserts that its competitor should do the same.

Racal Vodafone, which claims more than 70,000 customers, insists that it requires the use of the reserved channels only for a few months, to alleviate congestion on its network, particularly severe during the evening rush hour.

Shoppers to be clamped in car parks

Motorists who park too long in the car parks at Sainsbury's supermarkets now risk being clamped.

A spokesman for the company said: "We have had enough of people abusing our car parks. We now think we have an effective deterrent to get rid of them."

The Sainsbury chain has brought in its own blue and white clamps at Chiswick, New Barnet, and the Cromwell Road, west London. Drivers will have to pay £10 to be unlocked. Shoppers are still allowed two hours free parking, but any car left for five hours or more will be clamped.

There were no signs yesterday that rival supermarkets were planning to follow suit. In fact, Tesco, sensing an opportunity of winning over new customers, said it still offered free parking for all.

Salvage team examine cargo on bomb ship

Salvage and explosive experts yesterday began examining the cargo on the dynamite-laden freighter Hornestrand, nine miles off Looe, Cornwall.

More than 9,000 cubic yards of nitrogen was pumped into the holds on Saturday to extinguish fires which have recurred since the Danish vessel was abandoned in the Channel a fortnight ago.

The boarding party will report to a committee of experts at Falmouth which meets today to decide if she can be brought into the port, or is so dangerous she must be sunk.

Top award to axed station

A railway station closed by British Rail more than twenty years ago, won the top prize yesterday in a best- restored station competition.

The Association of Railway Preservation Societies gavethe award toHaven Street station on the Isle of Wight, which is now run by the Wight Locomotive Society. The main award in the public and commercial sector went to the British Rail station at Wellingborough, in Northamptonshire.

'£100m is needed for M25'

More than £100 million should be spent on improvements to the M25 in Surrey during the next 10 years, according to the British Road Federation.

It is part of a £650 million county road programme advocated by the federation in a report published today.

It adds that £480 million of that will be needed by Surrey for local road improvements and maintenance, and the rest by the Department of Transport for motorway and trunk roads.

Surrey roads are among the busiest in the country. In 1982 traffic on its principal roads was twice the national average, and the proportion of heavy goods vehicles one of the highest in the country.

Traffic on every section of the M25 in Surrey is already near or above the level it was designed to handle 15 years after opening.

The federation welcomes the department's decision to add a fourth lane to sections of the motorway between Chertsey and Staines, but says that will do "little more than solve the immediate problems. In the longer term it will be essential to take further action", including possibly widening the whole M25.

Road Needs in Surrey (British Road Federation, Portugal Street, London WC2; £10).

Seaman faces death trial

A merchant seaman accused of killing a ship-mate during a New Year's Eve party on a British oil tanker off the coast of Brunei was committed by Horseferry Road magistrates, in London, yesterday for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

David McVicar, aged 37, of Bay View, Campbelltown, Argyll, is charged with the manslaughter of David Moon. He was granted bail.

M1 driver found dead

A woman who drove 20 miles along the M1 in the wrong direction on Monday before being stopped near Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, was found dead yesterday.

Paran Ratip, aged 23, of Pellat Grove, Wood Green, north London, was committed to a hospital suffering from a mental disorder. She discharged herself and later her body was found beneath a bridge in Muswell Hill.



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Examples	Sunny 1.3L 3-Door	Sunny 1.3LX 3-Door
Cash price†	£5820.53	£6622.85
3.0% pa 6.1% APR Initial payment (min 50%)	£2910.27	£3311.43
24 monthly payments of (starting one month after contract date)	£123.95	£146.67
Weekly equivalent	£29.76	£33.85
Charge for credit	£184.54	£208.66
Total credit price	£6005.07	£6831.51
Saving*	£465.60	£529.92
6.0% pa 11.6% APR Initial payment (min 25%)	£1455.14	£1655.72
48 monthly payments of (starting one month after contract date)	£112.98	£128.53
Weekly equivalent	£26.07	£29.66
Charge for credit	£1057.65	£1302.31
Total credit price	£6878.18	£7825.16
Saving*	£873.12	£993.12

*Compared to 11.0% typical (APR 22.1% – over 24 months) (APR 21.1% – over 48 months).

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British Airways

Plans for better passenger services

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Newly privatized British Airways is being "besieged" with offers to buy into aviation-linked business throughout the world. But airline chiefs are concentrating instead on improving the quality of the service to passengers.

Mr Colin Marshall, chief executive, in his first interview since the airline was floated on the Stock Exchange last month, said: "We have been besieged with offers from merchant banks, investment houses and organizations who specialize in putting together companies with similar interests".

One main area for urgent improvement is the airline's Club or business class service. Most of the long-haul aircraft in the fleet have been refurbished with bigger stowage areas and improved galleys but nothing has been done to improve the seats on business class.

"This will happen within the next year", Mr Marshall said.

The airline has commissioned detailed scientific research into how a seat should be built and it believes it has evolved a revolutionary "hammock" which gives almost as much comfort as a bed.

The new business class of service is considered vital in competing with the giant American airlines, which now dominate the north Atlantic, and with the rapidly emerging giants in the Far East.

British Airways is determined to find a way of feeding passengers on to its long-haul trans-Atlantic routes from smaller airports within the US which it does not serve directly.

In Europe the prospect, eventually, of mergers and financial tie-ups with airlines is "inevitable" according to Mr Marshall although this will not happen quickly. But he is worried that government competition policy within Britain itself could harm all airlines.

By opening up British airspace to competition the Government had allowed carriers, such as KLM, Lufthansa and Air France, to start a whole range of services from provincial airports while British airlines could not fly similar services to German or French provincial cities, he said.

"What is needed is a very much more clearly thought through policy for British aviation as a whole to ensure that competition itself does not harm our industry. This could mean a completely new review of the Government's aviation policy."

WORLD SUMMARY

Seven killed in black township

Johannesburg — The bodies of seven black youths, aged between 15 and 17, were found murdered in the KwaMashu township, near Durban, yesterday, the South African Government's Bureau for Information said (Michael Hornsby writes). Sources indicated the killings were another episode in the feuding between the Inkatha movement of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi and United Democratic Front militants. Earlier, police said they had killed a suspected African National Congress guerrilla and a woman in a raid near Durban.

● ANC meeting: Professor Pieter de Lange, chairman of the Afrikaner Broederbond, confirmed that he had met the ANC informally last year in New York but rejected US press reports that he advocated negotiations with the organization.

The ice maiden

Moscow — Siberia has picked its first beauty queen from 10,000 hopefuls in Irkutsk — a student from the local railway engineering institute (A Correspondent writes).

According to the local newspaper Lyudmila Semdyakina impressed the judges because she does not smoke, was best at rhythmic dancing, had a better gait and bearing than the other girls, and did not try to imitate the "discotheque stereotype".

Exports diverted

Lusaka (Reuter) — Zambia has stopped sending its copper exports through South Africa, the *Times of Zambia* has reported.

The newspaper, owned by the ruling United National Independence Party, quoted highly placed sources as saying the state-owned Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines was diverting exports away from South Africa.

It did not say which alternative routes were being used.

Korean talks offer

Seoul (Reuter) — South Korea yesterday proposed a meeting of Prime Ministers to improve relations with North Korea, but said that the two countries must first restore mutual trust.

The proposal by Mr Lho Shin Yong, the South Korean Prime Minister, was made in a letter delivered to the North at the border village of Panmunjom and was in reply to a North Korean call for high-level political and military talks.

Vietnam pull-out

Stockholm — The Swedish Foreign Aid Minister, Mrs Lena Hjelm-Wallen, said yesterday that she had been told by the Vietnamese Goverament that it intended to withdraw its troops from Cambodia before 1990 (Christopher Mosey writes).

Mrs Hjelm-Wallen, on a visit to Hanoi to inspect Swedish aid projects in Vietnam, told Swedish radio that she had been given "firm assurances" on the withdrawal.

Stones in ANC aid

Amsterdam — A Dutch pop singer has set up a scheme to raise money for South Africa's banned African National Congress by charging people to have their initials engraved on cobblestones in Dam Square, Amsterdam (Reuter reports).

Harry Slinger originally planned the campaign as a joke, but now says that the Mayor, Mr Ed van Thijn, has given permission for the engraving of the 25,000 stones.

Drummer's operation



Surgeons removed a malignant brain tumour yesterday from Buddy Rich, left, the drummer and band leader, a spokesman for the University of California Hospital said (Reuter reports from Los Angeles). Rich, aged 69, is in good condition and will probably be discharged in two weeks. He played in the bands of Artie Shaw, Tommy Dorsey, Benny Carter and Harry James before starting his own band in 1966.

Tehran arms cache

An arms cache big enough to equip a small private army has been seized from Mr Mehdi Hashemi, the former right-hand man of Ayatollah Montazeri, the elected successor to Ayatollah Khomeini, it was announced in Tehran yesterday (A Correspondent writes). Mr Hashemi, who was arrested last October, after his men had disclosed the Tehran trip of Mr Robert MacFarlane, President Reagan's former National Security Adviser, is accused by the Iranian Ministry of Information of murders and abductions committed before and after the 1979 revolution.

Mayor Koch faces scandal with a smile

From Charles Bremner, New York

Mr Edward Koch managed a weak smile when a reporter playing the hyperactive New York mayor in a charity review last month sang: "I'm so excited — I'm not indicted."

Until now, the 62-year-old mayor has banked on his strong reputation for personal integrity to keep his distance from the corruption scandal which has swept his administration over the past year.

But the indictment on Monday of New York's senior Congressman, Mr Mario Biaggi, and the powerful former Democratic boss of Brooklyn, Mr Meade Esposito, has turned up the heat on the once-exuberant mayor and raised doubts about his own political future.

In a particularly damning statement on Monday, the city's FBI chief, Mr Thomas Sheer, said New York was suffering from a cancer. "I like to look at us as a doctor and some day I hope to say the patient is in remission," he said.

The charges against Mr Biaggi, aged 69, one of the city's leading power brokers, emerged from an FBI investigation that opened with the revelation that the city's parking violations bureau, which collects tens of millions of dollars in fines, was being run as a lucrative racket.

Since then, the FBI's net has hauled in a virtual Who's Who of city politics, including two other former Democratic bosses, the former heads of the transport and taxi commissions, two judges and the husband of the former Democratic vice-presidential candidate, Mrs Geraldine Ferraro.

As the scandal broke, the powerful president of the Borough of Queens, Mr Donald Manes, attempted to commit suicide. After the investigators closed in later and he was named as a co-conspirator, he stabbed himself to death.

Mr Koch, who has quickly sided with the prosecutors as the scandal enveloped his political allies, called Mr Manes a friend who turned out to be a crook.

Last week, a Manhattan court sentenced the former Bronx Democratic Party boss, Mr Stanley Friedman, and two senior city officials and a businessman to long prison terms on charges of racketeering, conspiracy and fraud.

The FBI chief said investigators were conducting a wide inquiry into the activities of the Democratic machine in Brooklyn and further charges were expected involving judicial appointments.

The charges against Mr Biaggi, a former policeman who wields heavy behind-the-scenes clout in New York, covered a relatively minor $3,000 Florida holiday alleged to have been paid for by Mr Esposito in return for arranging naval contracts with a Brooklyn dockyard. However, officials said Mr Biaggi was also being linked with the investigation into the Wedtech Corporation, a Bronx-based defence contractor.

Four former Wedtech executives have pleaded guilty to bribing government officials.

Mr Biaggi has taken a strong stand, among other things, against the British presence in Northern Ireland.

Criminal charges against US congressmen have not been uncommon in recent years.

The beleaguered Mayor Koch, an expert in political street-fighting, has suffered a sharp drop in his popularity ratings over the past few weeks as the corruption investigation has enveloped his associates. But he says he is determined to stand for re-election in three years' time and gave the public a taste of his old exuberance last Sunday when he launched a television chat show that he will host regularly.

Moi says Western journalists told lies

From Alastair Matheson
Nairobi

President Moi returned to Nairobi yesterday from a one-week visit to Britain and the United States saying Kenya was still "well-respected in the world", despite what he termed "propaganda in the Western media".

President Moi, who was asked by the US State Department in Washington to introduce human rights safeguards, yesterday blamed foreign correspondents in Kenya for "writing lies" about human rights abuses in his country.

Reports reaching Nairobi yesterday indicated that Mr Andrew Ngumba, a former junior minister and Mayor of Nairobi now in self-exile in Sweden, has announced his support of the Mwakenya opposition movement. The reports said that Mr Ngumba had informed a Stockholm newspaper that he had already contacted unnamed Mwakenya leaders to offer his assistance.

The paper quoted him as saying: "It is evident that silent opposition in Kenya is gaining a lot of ground". But he denied that Mwakenya was a Marxist organization.

A deacon of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa, Mr Michael Danson Mahugu, is the 67th Kenyan to be jailed for swearing an oath of loyalty to the clandestine Mwakenya movement. He was sentenced on Monday to four years' imprisonment.

Sweets and toys for the youngest lama

Dharmsala, India (Reuter) — The world's youngest Buddhist lama, a two-year-old Spanish boy, grinned, yelled and chewed sweets yesterday as he was enthroned and venerated as the reincarnation of a dead Tibetan lama.

The child, Osel Hita, from Granada, Spain, wore the maroon robes and the curved, pointed, yellow pandit hat (hat of wisdom) of a Tibetan lama (teacher) as he was carried to his throne sucking a toy.

In between accepting ritual offerings from smiling followers, he played with a toy car and repeatedly wriggled off the 3ft-high throne to run to his father or a little Italian boy sitting nearby.

Tibetan horns boomed, pipes wailed, cymbals clashed and bells rang as the Spanish child lama was carried into a tiny temple, overlooked by the snowcapped peaks of the Himalayas, near this Indian village where the Dalai Lama has his headquarters in exile.

About 50 Tibetan and Western Buddhist monks and nuns chanted prayers for the long life of the boy lama in the 2½ hours the ceremony lasted.

Osel's mother, 33-year-old Señora Maria Torres, watched anxiously as her husband, Señor Paco Hita, aged 39, carried the boy to the throne. "No, no, no," protested the boy, until the chirping of a battery-operated woolly bird set on a sidetable quietened him.

Osel, whose name means "clear light" in Tibetan, is the fifth child of Paco and Maria, who run a Buddhist centre near Granada. He has been recognized as the reincarnation of their teacher, Thubten Yeshe Rimpoche, who died three years ago in California after establishing dozens of Buddhist centres in the West.



The two-year-old Spanish child, Osel Hita, enthroned yesterday as the world's youngest Buddhist lama, nonchalantly surveying his followers before the ceremony at Dharmsala.

Followers of Lama Yeshe, who had travelled specially from the United States and Western Europe and who had crowded into the little temple, said there was nothing strange in a Tibetan lama choosing to be reborn in a Spanish child.

"The reincarnation is quite manifest if you know both personalities," said Mrs Lennie Kronisch, aged 51, who helped to nurse Lama Yeshe on his deathbed in California and had looked after Osel for a weekend.

"Osel's personality is very strong for a small child. It's like the mind of a 40-year-old man in a child's body. His appearance, and some of his gestures, are just like Lama Yeshe," she said.

The Dalai Lama, traditionally the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetans, did not attend the ceremony, although he has met Osel three times.

Russians propose space site inspectors

Geneva (AP) — The Soviet Union called on the Geneva Disarmament Conference yesterday to consider setting up an international inspectorate to use on-site inspection to guard against launching of weapons into space.

The chief Soviet delegate to the 40-nation conference, Mr Yuri Nazarkin, said such an inspectorate would be given access to launching sites for on-site inspections of "all objects designed to be launched and stationed in outer space" and of their launching vehicles.

Mr Nazarkin said his proposal was "another indication that verification will not be a problem for the Soviet Union" if the prevention of the arms race in outer space is concerned.

The Russians have campaigned strongly against the deployment of weapons in outer space, often referring to America's Strategic Defence Initiative, which seeks to create a space-based defence against missiles.

Mr Nazarkin also revived a Soviet proposal for an international agreement under which signatories would pledge not to attack peaceful nuclear facilities.

He referred to the accident last year at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Soviet Union, saying that was a "vivid demonstration of the indisputable fact that, if nuclear power goes out of control, there is no escaping it and no one will be spared".

Israeli promise of action in spy case

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The Israeli Government "will do everything in its power to respect the recommendations" of the special two-man committee it has set up to investigate why and how an American Jew was recruited to spy for Israel without ministerial knowledge.

This was emphasized in a statement issued yesterday after a Cabinet meeting largely devoted to discussing the effect on relations with the United States of last week's life sentence for espionage imposed in Washington on Jonathan Jay Pollard, a former US Navy analyst.

At the end of last week the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, said he would not be bound by the committee's findings, but yesterday's statement shows the Government is committing itself to follow any recommendations which will emerge from the inquiry.

The Cabinet met only after Mr Shamir had seen a delegation from the conference of presidents of American Jewish organizations, which has just begun a week-long session in Jerusalem. The conference chairman, Mr Morris Abram, said later that the Prime Minister told him: "It is not our way not to tell the truth to our friends. You can be entirely sure that the Pollard affair was not known to any member of the Government."

Mr Abram reserved his strongest criticism for the fact that Mr Pollard's two "handlers", Colonel Aviem Sella and Mr Rafi Eitan, had not been brought to account. Colonel Sella's promotion to command an air base, he said, was perceived by American Jewry as "a serious and irresponsible act". It had "caused a deep wound" which needed urgent treatment. Mr Eitan's transfer to head a nationalized industry was "a damaging act".

Mr Abram was confident, after seeing the Prime Minister, that both men would give evidence to the inquiry.

Evidence from the dead is being submitted to the war crimes trial in Jerusalem after a long argument yesterday about its admissibility (Ian Murray writes). The evidence, from four survivors of the Treblinka death camp who since died but who gave the sworn testimony to researchers, claims that the defendant, Mr John Demjanjuk, is "Ivan the Terrible". It includes photographic identification.

● Herzog clemency: In a further act of clemency to convicted members of the "Jewish Underground", President Herzog is expected to commute the life sentences imposed on three men for the murder of Arab students in Hebron in 1983 to 24-year terms of imprisonment.

They would then be entitled to up to one-third remission of the sentences as well as home leave for good behaviour. Only eight of the 24 "Jewish Underground" members, who were imprisoned for various terrorist acts on Arabs, are still serving sentences.

West Beirut car bomb ominous for Syrians

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The bomb blew the green Mercedes across Abdul-Rahim Diab Street, where it landed on its roof, setting fire to three other cars. Only one man — a bearded youth, with a cut on his forehead, clutching his chest with his right hand — was slightly wounded.

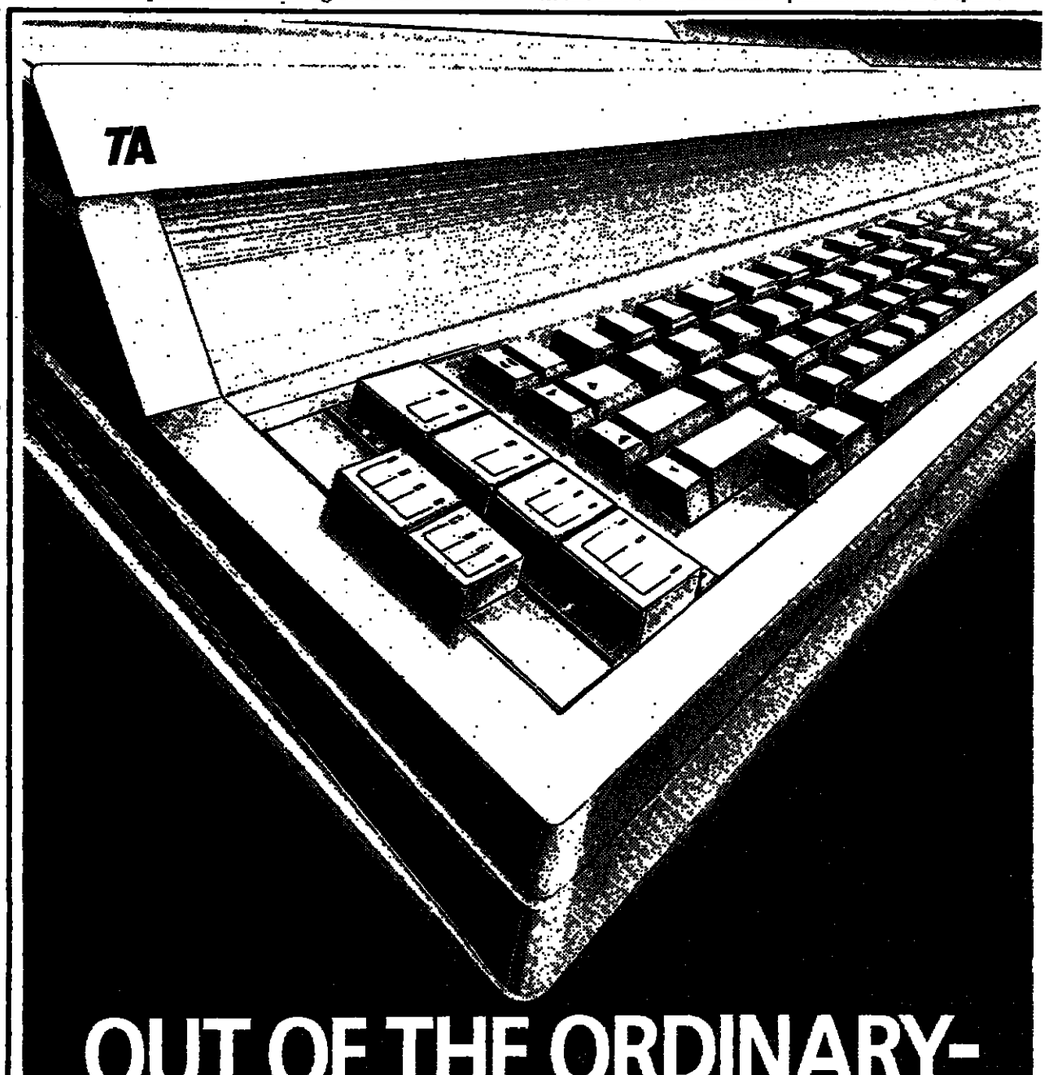
However, it was the largest bomb explosion to have occurred in west Beirut since the Syrian Army arrived last month and was, therefore, another small but unhappy sign of the times.

The explosion occurred near an office of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Lebanese political group which still demands a greater Syria that includes Lebanon. Those who planted the ominous little bomb clearly chose their area carefully.

At least 30 Syrian troops arrived in the narrow street within five minutes, rifles pointing to the rooftops. But the message must have been clear to them.

There were, however, no messages in west Beirut yesterday from the kidnappers of M Jean-Louis Normandin, the French television technician, whose captors threatened to murder him on Monday night.

Appeals to spare his life by two of the most prominent Shia Muslim clerics in Lebanon may have had some effect on the "Revolutionary Justice Organization", which failed to deliver any messages to news agencies in the city about M Normandin's fate. In Beirut this is probably a good sign.



The new Adler 500 series from OEM

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Wave of protests awaits Pope in US

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Details are being completed for the Pope's visit to the United States in September, a trip already beset by controversy, anger and worry at a time when the rift between American Catholics and the Vatican has never been wider.

A top-level American delegation is in Rome this week to discuss plans for the trip and to alert the Vatican about the problems and protests the Pontiff will encounter. He will meet demonstrations at every stop, from feminists, homosexuals, teachers and anti-Catholics.

There are fears among Catholics that what the National Conference of Catholic Bishops called a "growing and dangerous disaffection" within the American Church could be accelerated by the Pope's visit and his emphasis on the re-imposition of traditional orthodoxy.

There are 52 million American Catholics, a quarter of the population, but church attendance is low. Many of the faithful have been disillusioned by Rome's disciplining of nuns, theologians and bishops who have stepped out of line.

The Vatican's sweeping new proposals urging governments to ban medical intervention in reproduction has added a further dimension to the rift. Legal experts are warning of interminable fights in the courts if state legislatures or judges attempt to impose laws supporting the Vatican's position on such "illicit" techniques as surrogate motherhood, embryo and sperm banks, artificial insemination and test-tube fertilization.

Opposition would centre on two basic American legal doctrines — the right to privacy in decisions controlling a human being's body, and the separation of church and state under the First Amendment to the Constitution.

The Vatican's proposals come at time when many states are grappling with the moral and legal issues raised by unconventional reproduction practices. Some states have already banned test-tube fertilization and 25 states do not allow non-therapeutic foetal research.

When the Pope visited America in 1979, Aids was not an issue. Feelings are running high in San Francisco since word got out that Church officials would not include a visit to an Aids hospice during the Pontiff's 22-hour stop in the city.

The Rev Miles Riley, a co-ordinator of the papal visit to the city, said: "We thought the visit to the hospice would be one of the wonderful things San Francisco could to do to focus the attention of the world on the Aids issue."

The Pope's visit, from September 10-19, takes in Miami, Columbia, New Orleans, San Antonio, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Monterey, San Francisco and Detroit.

Although Detroit was not in the schedule originally, it was presumably added because it has many Polish-Americans and other ethnic Catholics, who can be expected to provide an upbeat end to an otherwise controversial tour.

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Finnish general election ends with shift to right

Conservative groups gain first majority since the war

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

The final result of Finland's general election has confirmed that the non-socialist parties led by the Conservatives have scored a big victory. They will have a majority in the Eduskunta (Parliament) for the first time since the war.

This is a major shift in Finland's politics, as the country has been dominated by centre-left coalitions.

The Conservatives have been outside government coalitions for more than 20 years, but their nine-seat gain will almost certainly open the door for them. The Conservative leader, Mr Ilkka Suominen, spoke about "new winds of change" after the election. "They'll have a tough job to keep us out now."



Mr Kalevi Sorsa: his Social Democrat Party lost one seat

Finland's difficult proportional representation system means that arithmetic plays an important role in the actual distribution of seats.

Thus the Conservatives won nine new seats, although their share of the vote rose by one percentage point to 23.3 per cent. The Social Democrat share of the vote fell by 2.5 per cent to 24.3 per cent, but the party lost only one seat.

Most other leading non-socialist groups — the Centre Party, the Swedish Party and the Christians — gained seats, although the Rural Party lost eight of its 17 seats.

The Greens did much worse than expected and were able to add only two new seats to their existing two.

Among the socialist parties, the big losers were the Stalinist Communists, who lost six seats and now have only four. The fall of the Stalinists to the small-party category is another important change in Finnish politics. The Eurocommunists lost only one of their 17 seats.

The Communist total of 20 seats shows how their support has plummeted — in the 1950s they had more than 50.

As usual, the election result does not give an automatic answer to who will be the next Prime Minister and which parties will form the coalition to replace the present centre-left Government led by the Social Democratic leader, Mr Kalevi Sorsa.



A jubilant Mr Ilkka Suominen, the Conservative leader, embracing a colleague after hearing the results of the general election, in which his party secured the biggest gain of nine seats.

Political observers see three clear alternatives. The first is a coalition of the three big parties — the Social Democrats, the Conservatives and the Centre Party. They control 149 seats

A grand coalition has many supporters, because the country faces important decisions on tax reform and other economic matters.

The second, and most likely, alternative is a non-socialist coalition between the Conservatives and the centrist block. This section has 111 seats. Such a move would most probably open up the leadership for the very ambitious Centre Party leader, Mr Paavo Vayrynen.

But these parties are afraid that they will have difficulties pushing through next year's crucial wages and prices agreements.

Thirdly, the Conservatives and the Social Democrats could co-operate on government level, because together they have 109 seats. This is unlikely, however, because the Social Democrats are not willing to work with a right-wing party.

According to the constitution, President Mauno Koivisto has the right to choose any leader to begin coalition negotiations.

Weinberger denies warplanes will be moved from Spain

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The US Secretary of Defence, Mr Caspar Weinberger, yesterday denied that Washington was negotiating with any other country about the possible relocation of Spanish-based US fighter-bombers and said that he was hopeful of a satisfactory agreement on the future strength of US forces in Spain.

He made the denial of published reports on relocation at a news conference at the end of his three-day visit to discuss security on Nato's southern flank, a subject which includes the current negotiations on the Spanish demand for a reduction of the US military presence in this country.

The question was related to an offer which, according to highly placed Spanish sources, was made by the American side during the last round of negotiations on the bases last February. The proposal was to move the 401st Tactical Fighter Wing with its 72 F 16 fighter-bombers from Torrejón, near Madrid, to Morón, near the southern city of Seville.

That offer was rejected by the Spanish Government, according to the same sources, which claimed that Spain wants a real reduction of forces rather than a mere relocation of them within the country.

Press reports both here and abroad have also speculated about the possibility that the US might seek to relocate the Tactical Fighter Wing in Portugal, Turkey or Morocco.

After meetings with King Juan Carlos, the Prime Minister, Señor Felipe González, and the Defence Minister, Senor Narcis Serra, Mr Weinberger said nothing at the news conference which might indicate that the positions of the two governments on the future of bases in Spain are any closer now than they were when he arrived here last Sunday.

He admitted that there are differences, "but I think that, with the degree of similarity and the degree of joint realization as to how important it is to preserve Western strength and security, I'm very hopeful that ultimately the negotiators will be able to reach a satisfactory agreement."

The Secretary of Defence insisted that he had not come here to negotiate but rather to inform and be informed.

Asked if the US forces in Spain would achieve added importance as conventional forces, in the event of an agreement to reduce nuclear weapons in Europe, Mr Weinberger replied that there was no reason to think they would be less important. He referred to an imbalance in favour of the Soviet Union in conventional forces and, he said, in nuclear forces as well.

● ATHENS: The Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreou, and the visiting President Kyprianou of Cyprus have made plans to tackle what the Greek leader described as "clear and open Turkish expansionism" against their countries (Reuter reports).

Mr Kyprianou said they set out their strategy during talks in Athens on Monday, a meeting which Mr Papandreou called one of the most important they had held. Neither leader would elaborate on their plans.

Lovesick sapper dismissed from army

Bonn — A lovesick young British soldier in West Germany, who got drunk and rammed his German girlfriend's house with an armoured troop carrier after she jilted him, was sentenced to three years' youth custody by a court-martial yesterday (John England writes).

Sapper Christopher Robinson, aged 19, of Doncaster, pleaded guilty to six charges, including damaging private property with intent to endanger his girlfriend's life. He was also dismissed from the service.

Traitor to die

Moscow (Reuter) — A former Soviet Army officer, Senior Lieutenant Vasily Tarakanov, who went over to the Nazis during the Second World War and headed a German execution squad, has been sentenced to death by a court in Smolensk.

Absent friends

Tokyo (Reuter) — Two Japanese fishermen, presumed dead after their boat was found abandoned 24 years ago, have written to relatives from North Korea for the first time, saying they wanted to see their families, but not explaining their long silence.

Long life

Peking (Reuter) — The average citizen of Shanghai, a heavily polluted industrial city, lives for 74.27 years — five years longer than the average in mainly rural China and one year longer than in the developed world.

Doctor ban

Dhaka (Reuter) — Bangladesh is to ban government doctors from practising in private clinics from next month to restore discipline in its health service.

Jewel theft

Rotterdam (Reuter) — Thieves broke into the house of the Dutch Prime Minister, Mr Ruud Lubbers, while he was out and stole gold and silver jewellery worth £30,000.

Inside win

Zurich (AP) — A man jailed for attempted manslaughter has won nearly four million Swiss francs (£1.57 million) in the national lottery.

Testing time as Hong Kong talks open

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

The last formal meetings between British and Chinese officials before Whitehall shows its hand on the crucial issue of direct elections in Hong Kong got under way yesterday. Four days of talks opened in the colony within the Joint Liaison Group (JLG), a Sino-British forum designed to pave the way for the transfer to Chinese rule in 1997.

Although other issues were expected to dominate the sessions, British negotiators are certain to use the opportunity to take the Chinese political temperature. The meeting is the first since Mr Hu Yaobang was replaced as the Communist Party's General Secretary, a move which aroused concern in the colony.

Soon after the meeting officials in Whitehall and in the Hong Kong Government are due to put the finishing touches to a Green Paper on possible constitutional changes during the final decade of Britain's lease. Although the paper will be only a discussion document, it it expected to reveal whether Britain favours more democracy in the colony.

Britain's legal right to determine Hong Kong's constitution until July 1997 has been overshadowed by a wish to stay in step with Peking's plans for the post-colonial future. Those plans are being drawn up a Basic Law Drafting Committee, composed of Chinese officials and Hong Kong representatives.

Constant contacts between the British Embassy in Peking and Foreign Ministry officials there have been the main focus for political co-ordination, while the JLG has concentrated on technical matters. Meeting for the sixth time, the JLG is expected to concentrate on whether the 7,670-strong British garrison should be run down before the handover, and if so what should replace it.

The meeting is the first since Sir David Wilson, the former British chief negotiator, was appointed Governor. Sir David is due to take up his appointment on April 9.

Cautious Aids lesson for US

From Michael Binyon
Washington

After months of sharp debate, the United States has released its new Aids education plan which emphasizes abstinence and monogamy, but also urges people to use condoms if these measures are not followed.

The plan gives local authorities the freedom to decide what, if any, information should be passed on to young people. The Federal Government will develop television advertising, school curricula and other materials for national distribution, but it is up to state and local officials to use the material, change it or ignore it.

The report was released unexpectedly after a congressional hearing had strongly criticized the Administration for not doing enough to educate people about Aids. It was due to be released a month ago, but was postponed after President Reagan intervened with a memorandum saying educational materials should discuss sexuality "within the context of marriage" and "should teach that children should not engage in sex."

Dr Otis Bowen, the Secretary of Health, said in his introduction to the 60-page report that, in the absence of a cure, the best hope for controlling the epidemic lay in educating the public about the seriousness of the threat.

The Government wants to spend $80 million on the campaign this year and $104 million next year. Some 32,000 Americans have contracted Aids; 18,000 died.

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Who will slice the ice?

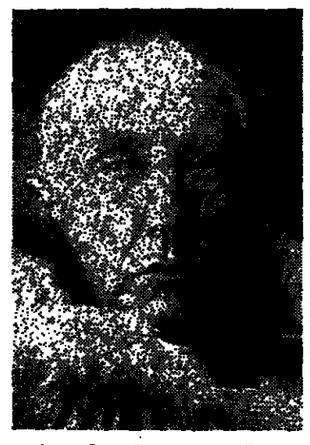
FALKLANDS

FIVE YEARS ON
Part 3: The battle for Antarctica

There are many who believe the fate of the Falkland islanders has become a sideshow compared with the main event, which involves a battle for the mineral riches of Antarctica. **Alan Franks** unravels the conservation arguments over the last great frontier and finds there is a dispute about the continent's actual resources



Stand by your flag: Captain Scott (centre) staking the British claim



Amundsen: he got there first

Five years after the Falklands conflict, the question of Britain's interest in the supposed riches of the huge Antarctic continent has all but upstaged the immediate plight of the 2,000 islanders. *This is true not only in* London, but also in the islands' capital, Port Stanley, where the residents, traditionally paranoid about UK Government intentions, *fear that they have become pawns in* a far wider geopolitical game.

The reason is simple, if unproven: Britain, runs the argument, is more concerned about retaining its South Atlantic possessions as a "gateway" to the last, vast unexploited wilderness on earth, than in guaranteeing the sovereign rights of the Falklanders. A glance at the map reinforces their apprehension. A few hundred miles to their south west lies this immense tract, an endless white skull-cap straddling the southern dome of the globe, with the peninsular tassle of Graham Land running tantalizingly up towards the South Orkney Islands.

And yet the continent itself could yet turn out to be a red herring, or rather a great white whale, for there is still little hard evidence to support the hopes of a rich cache of minerals beneath the forbidding mile-thick crust of polar ice.

*In four years, the terms of the 34-*nation Antarctic Treaty, now 26 years old, will come under review; it is not only for this reason, but also because of the dispute over those slices of the icy cake claimed by Argentina and her two late adversaries, Chile and the UK, that the Falklands are watching the deliberations of the international community with mounting interest.

Dr Peter Beck, reader in international history at Kingston Polytechnic, Surrey, and a leading expert on the region, considers the "gateway" theory in the following terms: "I suppose that if you are spending millions of pounds on a territory like the Falkland Islands, it is likely that you will find all *manner of reasons to justify* that expenditure.

"Yet I remember that when I gave evidence to the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee on Antarctica, Richard Laws, the director of the British Antarctic Survey, said that they (the Falklands) might be *useful, but certainly not vital.*"

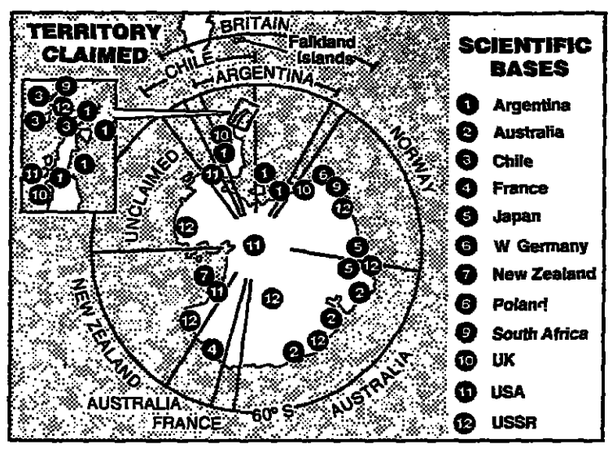
The treaty's existing freeze on mineral exploration, and its ban on military uses and nuclear dumping, is cited by the majority of member *nations as a rare, if modest triumph* for international cooperation. But there are gloomier prognoses; this, for example, from natural historian and conservationist David Attenborough: "You must bear in mind that the treaty has not really been tested yet. One of the sad things about humans is that they are always very happy to say that everything in the environment will be saved and protected. But in reality it often doesn't turn out quite like that.

"To be specific, if it were to be demonstrated that there were huge deposits of valuable uranium down there under the ice-cap, then for certain there would be someone to stand up and explain why, for the general good, it should be mined. Once this happens, then the floodgates open. The virginity is lost. Virginity is something you only have once."

That theme of environmental purity is one frequently echoed by the Falklanders, many of whom came, like their predecessors, in search of the pristine peace which only remoteness can bring. To settlers like Ian Strange, a former Special Air Service man and passionate ornithologist, *the notion of any* commercial or industrial development in the region is a prospect quite as hideous as would be the return of the Argentine navy. *There is a near-religious fervour in* his wish for the whole huge place to be left alone. He goes a good way beyond Attenborough.

Strange stands proudly at his slide-projector in the house which he built himself in Stanley, lovingly feeding in images of the South Atlantic wildlife he has captured on film over the years. "There is hardly anything left on this planet that remains in the condition in which it was intended *to be,*" he says, in tones that smack of advanced depression. "Man ruins things. *I don't know why;* it seems to be his nature. There have to be voices prepared to cry out *against his destructive ways.*"

However premature the hopes of the claimant nations might be for a latterday Klondyke at the South Pole, there are several compelling reasons why they want to hang on to their slices. The first is the evidence of various geological surveys of the Antarctic — notably the one carried out by an American team in 1974, which estimated that there could be as much as 45 billion barrels of oil there, as well as 115 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.



The second reason concerns the so-called "Condwana Land hypothesis". This refers to the present Antarctic land mass which was, until 160 million years ago, linked to what are now Australia, South Africa, and South America. Geologists believe that if the frozen continent has subterranean strata of a comparable character, then it follows that it will contain a similar wealth of minerals.

The third reason is simply that *unless and until it is proven that* there are no valuable resources here, no country with a recognized stake in the area would wish to exclude itself from the reckoning.

Since victory in the Falklands conflict, Britain has become more bullish in its claims. One highly-influential figure in Whitehall fears that in the highly-contentious top left-hand corner of the cake, any attempt by one of the three nations to have excluded from the treaty the claims of the other two could easily lead to renewed and serious tensions in the South Atlantic, a prospect abhorred by the Falkland islanders since their experiences of 1982.

Unpopulated areas, he argues, are commonly viewed as being full of riches for those with the guts to go and get them, adding that if you were to ask an Australian about the value of the outback, you would probably get an inflated estimate.

The Antarctic Treaty, which was signed in December 1959 by its 12 original member nations, came into force two years later. The main aims were to:

- Ensure the region was used solely for peaceful purposes.
- Promote international scientific cooperation there.
- Set aside disputes over sovereignty.
- Establish Antarctica as a nuclear-free zone, and safeguard the environment.

It has been a long and harmonious honeymoon, but it has yet to harden into a stable marriage. The next decade will tell, for one of the provisions included in the treaty is that after it has run for 30 years, a review of the terms can be asked for by any of the signatories.

Within the next 12 months the likelihood is that the long freeze on mineral exploitation will be thawed out by the member nations. One of the most important matters still to be thrashed out is whether resources found in the continent are to be shared equally between the countries, or whether they are to be the sole prerogative of the countries laying claim to the slice in which those resources are found.

For the moment, the treaty remains an effective, if fragile instrument of accord in a disputed region. "But would we actually go to war to prevent exploitation that was not within the terms of the treaty?" asks David Attenborough. "If we suddenly discovered that a large and wealthy nation was, say, mining uranium, what would we do? What *would* we do?

"I accept that the place is so huge that, even if you started mining, the penguins and the seals and the rest of the wild life would not all disappear at a stroke. But I am not thinking of that alone. I am thinking of the more profound and philosophical implications of such an action — the very kind of thing for which people do not actually tend to go to war."

LIFE STORY OF A CONTINENT

1819-21: Antarctica discovered, either by Edward Bransfield (British), Fabian von Bellingshausen (Russian), or Nathaniel Palmer (American).
1840s: Expedition by Britain's James Clarke Ross and Joseph Hooker. Hooker travels to Falkland Islands to refit boat, starts botanical research.
1895: International Geographical Congress meets, London, establishes Antarctica as study and conservation area.
1900-04: First Scott expedition reaches 77 degrees south.
1907-09: Shackleton gets within 97 miles of South Pole.
1908: Britain declares claim over Falkland dependencies.
1911: Amundsen expedition reaches Pole, December 14.
1912: Scott arrives, January 17.
1917: Britain redefines territorial claims as lying between 20 degrees west and 80 degrees west.
1919-20: Britain resolves to work towards control of whole continent.
1943: Under "Operation Tabarin", Britain establishes permanent scientific presence.
1945: Operation Tabarin renamed Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey.
1959: Antarctic Treaty, with 12 initial signatories. (UK, US, South Africa, Belgium, Japan, Norway, France, New Zealand, Soviet Union, Argentina, Australia, Chile.)
1960: Rechristened British Antarctic Survey.
1972: Convention for the Conservation of seals.
1980: Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Living Marine Resources.
1982: Treaty members open negotiations on terms of mineral exploitation.

Settling into a strange land

With the Bill to close an immigration loophole going through Parliament, how do Tamils settle in British life?

Decision time is near for the 64 Tamil refugees who stripped in a protest at London airport last month. The UK Immigrants Advisory Service has until today to make representations to the Home Office on their eligibility for full refugee status. Meanwhile, the Home Office is beginning to grant temporary admission to those still detained — and the Tamil community in Britain is preparing to welcome them.

There is giggling and muttering on the stairs of the spacious Victorian house which serves as a hostel for female Tamil refugees in north London. The house has been given to the Tamil Refugee Action Committee for five years by Haringey Council. It is one of 20 hostels, accommodating 143 refugees, run by the TRAC. The women pay £16 a week (plus £4 for heating) for rooms.

In an upstairs bedsitter, Shirani Tharunmalingam says she came from Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, in early 1985. At first she lived with her family (her sister is a doctor in Yorkshire, her brother an engineer in London). But she wanted to be *independent.* After taking three months to find a job, she now works in an Indian supermarket in Earls Court, earning around £100 for a 42-hour week. In the evenings she studies to be an accountant and watches televison. She is happy here. English people are good to her. "Conditions are much better than at home," she says.

Shirani, daughter of a Christian lawyer, is better off than most of the 3,500 Tamil refugees who have come to Britain since the latest round of communal fighting in Sri Lanka started in 1983. But she is typical in the way she has been supported by her family — and now the wider Tamil community — *and in her* determination to get on with her life.

Ten million of Sri Lanka's 14 million people are Sinhalese, and largely Buddhist. Almost all the rest are Tamils, who live in the north and east of the island. Many Tamils were introduced as tea plantation workers by the British. They are Hindu, with a sprinkling of Christians and Moslems.

Today, around 35,000 of them live in Britain. They came in three main waves. The educated elite started to arrive in 1958, following riots when the government of what was then called Ceylon made Sinhalese the official language. The second wave comprised students and professionals who came, they say, because educational and job preferment became difficult for Tamils in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The most recent refugees are the — often poorer-educated — Tamils who left Sri Lanka to escape the violence of the mid-1980s.

Most Tamils live in London, though there are pockets throughout Britain. In the capital the prevalent middle class (the accountants and doctors) tend to live in suburbs like Wimbledon — where there is a large Tamil community — Surbiton and Ealing. The more recent, and poorer-educated refugees tend to congregate in left-wing boroughs — like Haringey and Newham — which provide housing.

Sinnappu Maharasingam came in the first wave. Once a station master in Colombo, he refused to conduct business in Sinhalese when ordered to. In Britain he worked first on the railways and then for the Export Credit Guarantee Department, from which he retired as executive officer in 1984. He has five children, three of whom (all girls) have British degrees. One is now practising as a doctor in Birmingham. His son won a scholarship to Alleyn's public school in south London and captained London Schools at cricket.

A big, jolly man, a self-professed "free thinker", Maharasingam acts as an unofficial activist for the Tamils in Britain, lobbying the House of Commons.

His friend, S. M. Sathanathan, came in the second wave in 1970 to read economics. He now runs *London Murasu,* the largest magazine (around 4,000 circulation) for the Tamil diaspora, produced on two computers in a back room of his semi-detached home in the Tamil heartland of Wimbledon. He provides undemanding fare: basic Tamil news (largely social), stories about the Princess of Wales, and personal advertisements along the lines of: "Well-settled mother in London seeks for cultured pretty and slim Jaffna Hindu daughter, 22 years, Mars in Lagna, studying for professional qualification, a UK employed groom. Dowry available."

Rajes Bala, chairperson of the TRAC, also arrived in 1970, with her husband, who was qualifying as an engineer. Now divorced, she is bringing up three children while studying film-making at the London College of Printing. She also writes novels, two of which were serialized in *London Murasu.* She says she received telephone threats when one of her novels depicted the "double standard of the Tamil middle class in Britain; they want to be Western, but not to give freedom to their women".



S.M. Sathanathan, the editor of *London Murasu* magazine

Round the corner from *London Murasu* is the Ganpathy Temple, one of three Tamil Hindu temples in London (Christians hold services every fourth Sunday in a Methodist chapel in Putney). The regular priest is away because his wife has just had a baby and "for reasons of hygiene" he cannot meet others for eight days. For ordinary Tamils the quarantine period is 30 days.

The assistant priest, Suthakar Sarma, chants a *puja* (prayer) in front of a dozen statues to different deities, while a ghetto blaster plays Hindu liturgical music. Upstairs, English and maths classes are conducted. There are 14 Tamil schools — operating part-time — in Britain.

Vyramutu Varadakuma, co-ordinator of TRAC, says that as second generation Tamils in Britain become teenagers, they often experience social problems, particularly drinking. Samil Satkunadeva, who works for the Inland Revenue, tries to combat this by running a cricket team, the Surbiton Tamils, who this year will play 24 fixtures.

In these and other ways (such as Tamil restaurants in Highgate and Ealing), "the Tamil community survives well in exile", Rajes Bala says.

Andrew Lycett

THE TIMES GUERNSEY GILET

This pure wool 'gilet' or button-through waistcoat is warm and practical as well as being smart and stylish to wear. It is made in Guernsey from 100% pure new wool and has many of the features that make Guernsey knitwear so popular.

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To the aid of Aids

Help for the victims is coming from unusual sources, including charity dinner parties

Whether it will ever be quite "the hottest charity ticket in town", as Jeremy Norman, chairman of Crusaid, says, is uncertain. But raising money for Aids and its victims is becoming acceptable, even fashionable in Britain.

Last month, Sotheby's donated a case of their best Chateau le Roc boardroom claret and sent an executive to auction it and other goods at a supper concert party for 150 paying guests at the St Albans home of film producer Stanley Kubrick. It raised more than £6,000 for Crusaid.

Now Crusaid is planning a much larger public auction at Christie's. In less than a year since it was started by Norman and a friend, Crusaid has raised £100,000 for Aids victims. And it is expecting a £500,000 donation from the Kobler Foundation, set up by Freddie Kobler, founder of Grand Metropolitan. This will be used to improve outpatient and day care facilities for Aids patients at St Stephens Hospital in London.

Crusaid was formed to tap sources of finance not generally available to Aids victims. A committee member, who asked not to be named, says: "We knew of the existence of organizations like the Terence Higgins Trust, but we felt they were not getting money from some people because they had a fairly aggressive approach, with very explicit and tough talks on sex.

"We thought there was a role for an organization which concentrated on high-quality mailings and events. We pooled address books and put together a mailing list of 400 people. Many of these came to our launch party at Leighton House in July when we raised £20,000. Then we held a concert in October and a Christmas party. People tended to give over the odds. If the ticket was £15, they'd give £50."

'No campaigning, dedicated to just raising money'

Crusaid has acquired three patrons — Rabbi Julia Neuberger, Baroness Lane Fox and Sir Christopher Booth, chairman of the British Medical Association. It will shortly announce two more "household names" as patrons, and eventually wants six in all. "It is a totally compassionate organization that has no campaigning role," says Neuberger. "It is simply about raising money to help people."

The money goes directly to relieve the suffering of Aids victims, mainly in NHS hospitals. Norman says he and his colleagues were appalled at the lack of facilities, particularly in the early days when "you couldn't get an electrician in a hospital to change a plug for someone with Aids". Aids wards were dilapidated and neglected, equipment old or simply not available to Aids patients.

"One of the major problems with Aids is pneumonia," Norman says. "This can be treated, but it involves broncoscopy. However, this was often not available to Aids patients because of risk of cross-infection. One of our first donations was £9,000 to St Stephens for an Aids-dedicated broncoscope, with specialized cleaning equipment."

Money has gone to provide television sets and headphones in Aids wards. Within a day of the recent supper concert party, £100 of the money raised had been spent on a new cooker for an Aids victim and a further donation for a man who had been prescribed the new anti-Aids drug AZT but was on social security and could not afford the special diet which went with it.



Patron: Rabbi Julia Neuberger

'Amazed by the generous — and the mean'

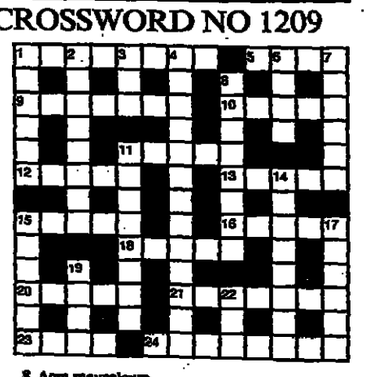
Norman says: "I'm always amazed by the generosity of some people and the meanness of others." He says he has been "bitterly disappointed by the reaction of very close personal friends who have turned us down".

However, things are changing, even if Britain is "still three years behind the United States as far as social acceptance of the disease is concerned."

Michael Duncan

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1209



ACROSS
1 Belgian king (3)
5 Artist's work (4)
9 "British" dog (7)
10 By oneself (5)
11 Bee group (5)
12 Small herring (5)
13 Meander (5)
15 Lucifer (5)
16 Viper (5)
18 Reef material (5)
20 Untrue (5)
21 Birth attendant (7)
23 Spool toy (2-2)
24 Diabolic (8)

DOWN
1 Sacred books (6)
2 Not taken notice of (8)
3 Decrepit (3)
4 Swedish film director (6,7)
6 Scheme (4)
7 Grassy plain (6)
8 Agra mausoleum (3,5)
11 Stemmed (8)
14 Oxford Univ library (8)
15 Dull, staid (6)
17 Utter again (6)
19 Drama (4)
22 Female deer (3)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 1208

ACROSS: 1 Conned 5 Income 8 Urn 9 Scowls 10 Tawdry 11 Aria 12 Bareback 14 Bank annuities 17 Plethora 19 Same 21 Heroin 23 Avenue 24 Car 25 Stifle 26 Elapse
DOWN: 2 Oscar 3 Newmarket 4 Dustbin 5 Inter 6 Cow 7 Miracle 13 Bathsheba 15 Ailment 16 Unaware 18 Ounce 20 Mauls 22 Oaf

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WEDNESDAY PAGE



Mark Pepper

When the screaming had to stop: David Cassidy says that what he really wants to do now is to become a respected working actor

Super Puppy grows up

David Cassidy, the pop superstar who could not cope with fame, is back — on the West End stage, in *Time*. Caroline Phillips spoke to him

It is unnerving when one's erstwhile teeny-bopper poster materializes and picks up a cup of coffee. But that is what happened when I met David Cassidy: former pop idol, former teenage Super Puppy, former superstar. He points out the difficulties of being lumbered with being a former Something. "Why don't you just say: 'David Cassidy, actor, comedian, man in search of his own identity?' "

Cassidy is 36, going on 28. Still very small, he wears black jeans, a roll-neck sweater and his hair is dyed blond. Jet-lagged, having just flown in from America, he's tired and tense. But he is still polite, with a ready sense of humour. He also seems neurotic and fragile. Early on, he asks "Am I being boring? Am I too guarded?"

Cassidy is in London to make his West End stage debut on April 13 as the Rock Star in Dave Clark's musical, *Time*. In it, a bunch of singing humanoids are summoned up to the High Court of the Universe to defend and save Earth, which appears set on course for destruction. The only wit is supplied in the form of a massive hologram of Sir Laurence Olivier's head. "I always wanted to work with Olivier's head," says Cassidy. "At least I can tell my kids, if I ever have them, that I worked with part of Olivier. The best part, I might add."

He will take over from the timeless Cliff Richard, the nation's sweetheart, for a three-month run. "Cliff is an institution here. There's a kinda 'hands-off Cliff' feeling." Why did he decide to take the part? "Because they offered me a lot of money."

Cassidy immediately wrestles with his leg, attempting to put his foot in his mouth. Why does he say these things, he wonders? His real motive is that he considers the show a great challenge. "I want to be thought of as an actor here — because I am." He has spent the past five years in theatre, both regional and Broadway.

From an acting family — his father was the late Jack Cassidy, his mother Evelyn Ward appeared in the Broadway production of *South Pacific* — Cassidy was, self-professedly, on the way to becoming a well-respected actor in the 1960s. Then came 1970 and *The Partridge Family*. He was cast, aged 19, as the 16-year-old dewy-eyed son of a suburban family who had their own rock'n'roll band. His vulnerable look and pleasant light voice appealed to the early teens.

The marketing men used David Cassidy to sell lunchboxes, bubble gum and toothpaste. He became the face on the back of cornflakes packets and one of the most screamed-at stars since Elvis. His earnings were conservatively estimated at £100,000 a year.

He recalls: "I used to work seven days a week. From 7am-7pm shooting, then from 7.30pm to midnight recording. At weekends, I'd do concerts."

At the height of his career a fan magazine alleged that super-clean Cassidy was a drug user: "They printed that about everybody, I'm not unique. Let's clarify the issue: I do not, have not, *don't* advocate them."

He soon had wall-to-wall gold discs and kerb-to-kerb girls wherever he stayed. He can't remember, but he thinks he has about 25 gold discs ("I keep them in a box in the closet"). His first hit with The Partridge Family, "I Think I Love You", sold more than five million copies. In his time, he has sold more than 30 million records. He was kissed goodnight, glossy lips on glossy prints, by as many girls. When Cassidy went out, it was under a blanket.

The boy who had been raised by his mother and grandparents in a small town in New Jersey, and went to church every week, lost his identity. "I had become something larger than life that I had not wanted or intended. I felt really lost."

He became paranoid and a recluse, hiding from the hysteria. "I could not handle the way people dealt with me. People saw me in the street and couldn't believe it; they wanted to touch and be close to that kind of success."

He was no longer looked upon as a singer and actor who wanted to have "real honest" relationships with people. "You talked to people and they didn't see you: they saw the stuff around you — the magazine covers, all the screaming and the craziness, the television shows."

He felt isolated. "Everyone wanted something from me — no sour grapes — but I was finding it hard to keep my sanity. I associated with the one or two people I felt comfortable with, or I stayed alone."

He was, he admits, en route for "one helluva" breakdown. "I didn't know who I was any more, or how I got like that. But I believe the values that were instilled in me by my family saved my life when I was really lost."

In 1975, Cassidy "retired", at the age of 24. He bred thoroughbreds on his farm in Santa Barbara, near Los Angeles, avoided music, saw a therapist and married and divorced actress Kay Lenz. "It's been kind of a metamorphosis," he explains.

He maintains he is now more happy emotionally; he has been married to the steeplechaser Meryl Tanz for three years. "I'm still pretty much of a loner. My wife lives on the farm and I spend a lot of time alone in LA. I've set a course towards simplifying my life. I no longer do things I don't want to do or don't need. I'm too old and bored with doing things that don't make me happy."

He runs five times a week and visits a gym. "It's good for me mentally. I don't do it because I'm trying to become Sylvester Stallone; it's important at this time of my life to try and maintain whatever is left of it."

Cassidy says he didn't know what he was going to do with his life, until four years ago, when he made his comeback in the Broadway production of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. In 1985, he returned to the top 10 with "The Last Kiss". "That's the only gold disc I keep out," he says.

"It has taken me 15 years to come to what I really want to do," he says — be a respected working actor. He is working on the co-production of a film with one of his three half-brothers. "I want to be able to work and do all sorts of different things — maybe even join a rep company. I don't just work for money, I don't go where they pay me the most."

In order to take up the role in *Time* he turned down the chance to appear in a play at the minimum Equity rate, but says he will chase that dream when he returns to the US. "If you ask me who I'd most like to be . . . well, I'd really most like to be myself, and after that Jimmy Stewart. He's the best American actor, both in serious and comic drama." Perhaps Cassidy keeps a poster of Stewart on his wall.

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Maureen does it again

Tact is not the strong point of President Reagan's eldest child

Maureen Reagan, the President's outspoken first-born, was catapulted gracelessly on to every front page in America last week when she raged about people who betrayed her father over the Iran fiasco. The President was "PO'd", she told aghast but delighted journalists in the White House press briefing room. John Poindexter and Oliver North should be court-martialled, she declared. Any member of the armed services who lied to the commander-in-chief — her father — was guilty of treason.

Maureen Reagan, aged 46, has moved from envelope-stuffer, beauty contestant, actress, talk-show host, trade consultant, magazine editor, and Senate candidate to become the second highest-ranking Republican Party official in America. She got the job late last year after her father had intervened on her behalf. For this and other reasons — her temper, her tongue, her penchant for sometimes appearing crass — she would not win a popularity contest or a prize for tact.

The occasion of her outburst, alas, was a press conference to which she was not invited. It was supposed to be given by her immediate boss, Frank Fahrenkopf, chairman of the Republican National Committee — she is co-chairman — who later hauled her into his office and, according to insiders, angrily told her: "You are not going to do this to me, Maureen!"



Outspoken: Maureen Reagan, a delight for the Press corps

The point of Fahrenkopf's press conference, which was to explain to reporters how President Reagan planned to put the Iran affair behind him, was lost. Maureen Reagan's escapade focused attention squarely on to Iran and put the whole business back as a main item on all three television networks.

There have often been tense times in public between President Reagan and his daughter. Unlike him, she has supported abortion and the Equal Rights Amendment, leading some conservatives to brand her as a liberal in Republican disguise. There was also the time when President Reagan was asked whether his daughter was running for the Senate and he replied, too hastily, "I hope not."

Maureen Reagan is more like her mother, the actress Jane Wyman, than her easy-going father. Her temper is venemous and she bursts with energy and quick laughter. She has been an indefatigable campaigner for her father and other Republicans.

In 1984 she stumped through all 50 states, working to capture women voters. And in 1985, she headed the US delegation to the United Nations Decade for Women conference in Nairobi, drawing considerable praise.

Nevertheless there has been much snickering about some of her eccentricities. There was, for example, a stuffed puma named Oscar who was carried everywhere and was arranged on the back of her aeroplane seat when flying. Once she stopped to buy it some sunglasses.

She generally demonstrates a deep loyalty to her family and, in particular, her father. The reverse has not always been true. She was sent to boarding school at the age of seven when her parents divorced, and from that time seems hardly to have figured in her father's life at all. Of late, though, he must have been noticing her.

Christopher Thomas

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BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Female fix-it

Next time the washing machine breaks down, should you call a female plumber? Until now, that's barely been an option — but now you can let your fingers do the walking through *Springboard '87*, a "female Yellow Pages" for the London area (but featuring many organizations of national interest), listing 290 categories of businesses or services run by women (from plumbers to private detectives), emergency numbers, ideas for bored children, and so on running to some 240 pages. Whether or not the female of the species turn up on time and always have the relevant replacement parts with them remains to be seen. Meanwhile, *Springboard '87* is £3.95 from newsagents, bookshops and by post (at no extra cost) from Springboard Publishing, PO Box 741, London NW6 4YP.

Clean up

The SDP may be going all-out to ensure that its name is on every voter's lips at the next general election — but even so, will squeaky-clean Dr Owen approve of the party's acronym appearing on a brand new all-purpose germ-killer and deodoriser which, according to its manufacturers, serves such invaluable purposes as removing algae from kitchen tiles, cleaning ornaments and — the mind boggles — "sterilising Lego"? (By the way, it's 67p from larger Boots branches.)

Private print

Seething with frustration after a holiday spent searching for places where she could feed her new-born baby, Susan Townend wrote to organizations such as the National Childbirth Trust for a list of "mother and baby" rooms — and drew a complete blank. So she compiled her own, writing to shops, stations, motorway service areas and museums to seek out those which offered privacy for breast-feeding and changing facilities. The newly-updated list of almost 600 venues is now available for £1.70 (including p & p) from the author at 69 Towngate, Clifton, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 6JR.

Dr What?

Busy doctors brook no questions; so, for those of us still not sturdy enough to insist on all the information we need before leaving the surgery, the Womens Health Information Centre's pamphlets are designed to fill in some gaps. The centre, established to enable women to make proper use of the national health and to take decisions about their treatment and care, offers a list of booklets covering subjects about which many feel less than fully informed — breast cancer, PMS, infertility and the implications of an abnormal cervical smear. For details about the centre, its aims, publications, and informative newsletter write to WHIC at 52 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 8RT (01-251 6580).

Quote me...



"Of the 49 proposals I received before I married, a great number of them were either in the garden, the conservatory or the woods."
Barbara Cartland

Stork news

When a seven-year old asks "where did I come from?", even the most laid-back parent has been reduced to using the stork, a gooseberry bush or even "Manchester" as a spluttered explanation. Now blushes can be spared by a video of author Peter Mayle's cartoon book, *Where Did I Come From?* (Virgin Vision, £9.99).

Josephine Fairley

Where fear is the ruling force

Intimidation is a way of life in Sicily for those who have the courage to break the Mafia code of silence

Last week Francesco Di Carlo, the "Godfather of Woking", received a 25-year jail sentence for his part in the biggest heroin smuggling operation in British history. The jury received round-the-clock police protection during the 84-day trial and the judge is expected to need protection for the forseeable future.

Last month in Palermo, Di Carlo's home until the early 1980s, a senior prosecuting magistrate described a recent controversial sentence which acquitted a group of notorious mafiosi, the alleged killers of eight men in 1984, as "illogical and unacceptable". He had just lodged an official appeal against the validity of the trial at which, for the first time in Sicilian history, the widow of one of the victims had the courage to testify in court against her husband's alleged murderers.

Meanwhile, the widow, Pietra Quattrocchi, 39, has been robbed of her living by the Mafia-enforced closure of her butcher's shop. Her son Antonio, aged 15, refuses to leave the house and spends most of the day lying on his bed. He is said to be too terrified to return to school or to go out into the streets.

For the Sicilian Mafia, beleagured by a series of judicial investigations and ongoing trials, the verdict was a major victory. For Mrs Quattrocchi, it was effectively a death sentence. She had broken the rule of *Omertà*, of absolute silence. "I believed in justice," she said immediately after the verdict, "and look how I've been rewarded for telling the truth. Now they are all free men. What did the authorities want from me? To see me killed?"

Mrs Quattrocchi now lives in increasing poverty with her four children, subjected to constant telephone threats of death. Her 39-year-old husband, Cosimo, was murdered in October 1984, together with seven other men, including one of his brothers and two cousins, in a stable in an isolated area of Palermo controlled by one of the city's most vicious Mafia gangs.

The men were gunned down at night while attending to a new shipment of 18 horses. Their killers used automatic shotguns and .9 calibre Parabellum pistols. When the victims were found the next morning, their faces were unrecognizable after being trampled on throughout the night by the panic-striken horses.

At first the investigators thought that the massacre was associated with drugs or illicit horse races. But a few months later in a tapped telephone conversation, police recorded Mrs Quattrocchi speaking of a bitter row which her husband had with a horse meat mediator from Catania called Antonino Fischiella. Her husband had decided a few months before to deal directly with other horse importers, cutting Fischiella out of the deal and saving on the large commissions which he demanded. Fischiella, a powerful Mafia-linked figure with a virtual monopoly of horse importation in much of Sicily, continually phoned her increasingly frightened husband, demanding his commission and "rights".



Pietra Quattrocchi at her husband's graveside

When the police questioned Mrs Quattrocchi about the telephone conversation, she decided to collaborate with them and eventually to testify in court. The judge, in his report justifying the acquittals, dismissed Mrs Quattrocchi's accusation as "valueless and contradictory" and as no more than "confused gossip between housewives".

Mrs Quattrocchi has no doubt that the decision to acquit everyone accused of her husband's murder was based on fear: "I think, in fact I know, that they were all terrified."

Terror has also split the Quattrocch family. The children have not forgiven their mother for her decision to testify in court. Her younger sister, Grazia, aged 37, was married to Cosimo's brother, who was also murdered in the Horse Stable massacre, but she refused to testify. "We still see each other occasionally, but I've lost all respect for her," says Pietra Quattrocchi. "As for my husband's family, they have had nothing, absolutely nothing to do with me since my decision to accuse his murderers."

The Palermo police claim to take the danger to her life very seriously. "We have supplied her with a 24-hour police guard," says Chief Inspector Carlo Accordino, head of the city's crime squad. But there was not a trace of a police guard outside Mrs Quattrocchi's home. "There has been no police guard for me and my family since the end of the trial," she says. "The parish priest and the church have avoided me, and the hundreds of customers who used to crowd my husband's shop have completely deserted us."

Dalbert Hallenstein

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THE TIMES DIARY

Flaming deacons

Hell hath no fury: members of the Movement for the Ordination of Women are reacting indignantly to a clerical boycott of Sunday's ordination of women deacons in St Paul's Cathedral. As some of the candidates' local clergymen, the suffragen Bishop of Edmonton, the Rt Rev Brian Masters, and his archdeacon, Father Robert Coogan, would normally perform parts of the ceremony. Both, however, are hard-line opponents of female ordination and take the view that creating women deacons is almost as bad. Thus, someone else will have to do the honours. "It's certainly going to be a bit awkward," a spokesman for the movement told me. "I think the situation is rather sad." Yesterday, Fr Coogan said that both he and his bishop had explained their boycott to the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Graham Leonard, who is performing the ceremony. I understand that Leonard, who has threatened to leave the church over the issue of women priests, gave them a sympathetic hearing.

Footsteps

The board of the Labour paper *Tribune* meets on Friday to select an editor to fill the chair once occupied by Michael Foot. Nigel Williamson, who as editor since 1984 transformed *Tribune* into a well-presented pro-Kinnock paper, is already safely ensconsed at Labour HQ producing a new monthly paper for the party. The front-runner to succeed, having the support of his colleagues, is staff reporter Phil Kelly, who is competing against three other candidates. Only one small cloud appears on his horizon: rumours about Kelly's alleged pro-Libyan links based on the fact that he once worked for a news agency which had Libya as a client. Yesterday he pointed out that he left the firm in 1982, some time before Britain broke off relations.

Overkill

Ayatollah Khomeini's Islamic Republic apparently feels the need to convince its citizens that they could have been born in worse places. Featuring the latest Home Office crime figures in its news headlines yesterday, Tehran Radio announced that there were more than 10,000 murders in England every day, 2,000 of them in London alone.

BARRY FANTONI



'And my client would like 9,372 other cases to be taken into consideration'

Slanging match

The public schoolboys of Harrow must be used to accusations that they are narrow-minded and right-wing, but not when such charges come from Eton. The *Eton Chronicle* claims that no left-wing politician had been near Harrow since Eric Heffer was shouted down there four years ago and accused Harrovians of being "rude and prejudiced". Harrow's headmaster, Dr Ian Beer, tells me that Eton has not done its homework properly: Heffer was not shouted down. Beer was forced to admit, however, that Heffer was, indeed, the last Labour politician to speak at the school. "It's not for want of asking, but I'm afraid it's a lot easier to get the Tories to come along," he said.

Numbers game

Companies setting up toll-free lines in America are capitalizing on the fact that US phones still have letters attached to each dialling digit. Thus American Express can now be dialled on 800 THE CARD. But recent additions are getting sillier: a New York clinic is available on 800 HERNIA; and the US Army, in the wake of recent espionage cases, has set up a hotline for reporting suspicious behaviour — on 800 SPY.

Sleeve note

When the Criminal Justice bill finished its committee stage yesterday, Tory committee member Greg Knight added to the customary exchange of thanks to members by making a small presentation. To the consternation of all present, Knight, home office minister David Mellor's PPS, stood up and thanked Labour's home affairs spokesman, Clive Soley, for keeping MPs awake — not by the brilliance of his ortatory but the garishness of his outfits. Knight thereupon whipped out a hideous tangerine shirt with black stripes and presented it to Soley as a token of his appreciation. Soley could do nothing but politely accept it.

PHS

Profits — everyone's incentive

by Graham Mather

One of the least costly of the Chancellor's Budget measures could have far-reaching economic consequences: profit-related pay. The tax relief granted to businesses and employees who agree to link a proportion of pay to profit has shown the better face of budget-making.

It proves that measures can be proposed, developed, and consulted upon long in advance of Budget Day without the roof falling in because of a breach of "Budget secrecy".

It will recast a long and rather sterile debate about the best way to involve workers in business; point up an escape route out of the debate on pay levels and pay policy that had become seriously bogged down; help to show the proper role of limited tax relief as opposed to strict fiscal neutrality; and stimulate the provision of public services in ways that incorporate the profit motive.

Consultation had real influence on yesterday's proposal. Outlined in the 1986 Budget speech, and subsequently the subject of a discussion paper at the National Economic Development Council and a green paper, the aim and structure of profit-related pay has undergone dramatic change.

When first discussed in Britain in the context of work by Professor Martin Weitzman of the USA, profit-related pay seemed to be a universal cure-all. It would, proponents claimed, dramatically reconstruct British pay bargaining, leading to a boost in economic output and job creation.

To achieve the Weitzman effect, significant proportions of pay would have had to be put at risk; tax relief would have had to be correspondingly large; there was a risk of unexpected economic distortions and disruption of existing profit-linked pay schemes.

Enter profit sharing Mark II: a recession-proof cushion which, Treasury circles argued, would allow pay rather than jobs to take the strain in times of business downturn. But with no recession visible, and serious practical difficulties about the speed with which businesses could adjust pay downwards to achieve the desired effect, this variant, too, was gently shelved.

The Mark III product is all the better for a modesty about its aims and scale. It recognizes that companies with several years' good profits behind them want legitimate but flexible means of rewarding their workers.

The Chancellor's initial sighting shot, which linked 20 per cent of profit-linked pay to tax relief, frightened employers. His second go, at 5 per cent, struck them as too mean to provide an incentive. The new plan strikes a balance and gives employers real flexibility to design their own schemes.

There is every chance that employers will now rise to the Chancellor's challenge. Employee involvement in the overall aims of a business is best secured through tangible participation and an awareness of the realities which determine profit or loss. Profit-related pay does this. Mere consultation does not.

Even with a large take-up, the cost of tax relief on profit-related pay is likely for several years to be tiny compared with a cut in basic rate income tax. If not taken up, it would cost little or nothing. In an economic downturn revenue loss from tax relief would reduce automatically. But if UK tax rates continue to fall generally, under pressure from competitive forces elsewhere, the cost of the tax relief is also reduced. As a parallel to and precursor of more general reductions, profit-related pay has much to offer.

A final twist: only profitable private sector employers will be able to secure tax relief for their employees. So there is a further incentive to privatize in the public sector, and for local authorities to contract out services to profit-making contractors.

The author is Director General-designate of the Institute of Economic Affairs.

Victor Bulmer-Thomas sees hope in the new Costa Rican peace initiative



Escape route from the Contra crisis

The reluctance of the US Congress to disburse the remaining $40 million promised to the Nicaraguan Contras last year and the resignation of Arturo Cruz from the United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO) are widely believed to herald the demise of the armed opposition to the Sandinistas. Assuming that President Reagan vetoes a congressional end to funding, the Contras can carry on until October; prudence suggests, however, that Washington should now start preparing its policy towards Nicaragua without a star role for the Contras.

When the CIA in 1954 assembled a counter-revolutionary army in Honduras to defeat the revolutionary government led by President Arbenz in Guatemala, it took no more than a few months from initial organization to eventual victory. The Contras have also enjoyed CIA support (for nearly six years). During that time they have received heavy funding, making them the best financed guerrilla group in Latin American history, and have been allowed to retreat across the borders into Honduras and Costa Rica with relative impunity — a privilege not normally available to guerrilla movements. Yet in that time they have failed to hold — or even take — any significant part of Nicaraguan territory.

The Contras cannot plead lack of numbers in their defence. There has been a steady stream of disaffected Nicaraguans joining the Contra cause since the Sandinistas began to consolidate their hold on power in 1980. At their peak, the Contras numbered 18,000 — a reasonable size against a regular army of 60,000 (excluding the Sandinista militias and reserves). By contrast the left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador have been able to control great chunks of territory with a rebel force only one-third the size of the Contras.

So why have the Contras made such little progress? One reason is that the Sandinistas are good at fighting guerrilla wars: some of their leaders have had long experience of this type of combat, going back to the early 1960s, and they know the rugged border terrain backwards. Many of the Contra leaders, on the other hand, look distinctly uncomfortable in combat fatigues.

There is also a fundamental confusion in the Contra camp over the goals of the counter-revolution, which is reflected in the divisions between the component parts. The original group, the rump of ex-President Somoza's defeated National Guard, still dominate the leadership of the main military force (the FDN) and have little or no sympathy for any features of the Nicaraguan revolution. Next, there are large numbers of former participants in the revolution who now dominate the leadership of the political wing of the Contras (UNO) and who wish to see the revolution return to its original goals (political pluralism, mixed economy, non-alignment).

There is also a much smaller group, who see themselves as the true Sandinistas and heirs of Sandino's struggle for national liberation 60 years ago. Finally, there are the Miskito groups drawn from the Atlantic coast, who wish to enjoy the same autonomy under the Sandinistas (or any other government) that they were allowed under Somoza.

Given the very different goals of these groups, it is perhaps not surprising that the Contras have made such little progress. Yet their problems have been made even worse by the shift in tactics of the Sandinistas. Although they are famous for their foreign policy blunders (they are the only people, it is said, who learn from their mistakes and then repeat them), their grasp of domestic issues is far superior. The clumsy and patronising approach towards the Atlantic coast populations has been replaced by an autonomy project, while the new land reform policy of giving land to individuals (with the right of inheritance) strikes at the major concern of the poor peasants who constitute the bulk of the Contra rank and file.

Nicaragua's neighbours have for some time now recognized that the Contras are a losing bet. Their governments have no love for the Sandinistas, but their position as front-line states forces them to be realistic. There are differences among them from the "active neutrality" of Guatemala (first developed by the military) through the "military, but not ideological, neutrality" of Costa Rica to the overt hostility of El Salvador, but none has been prepared (not even Honduras) to risk being dragged into a regional war from which there would be only losers.

Washington, until recently, was not prepared to confront this cold draught of logic, but there are signs that the Iran arms scandal has injected a note of realism. What the Reagan administration needs, however, is an honourable exit from a policy which has yielded so few results and attracted so much criticism. Unfortunately, most alternatives to the Contra policy (including the Contadora group's proposals) have not offered this option.

Abandoning the Contras is not in itself a policy. No country, least of all the United States, wishes to play host to a demoralized but heavily-armed bunch of guerrillas. There has to be a political solution leading to their repatriation to Nicaragua on terms acceptable to both the Sandinistas and the Contras; this means not only an end to the state of emergency in Nicaragua and the restoration of constitutional rights, but also guarantees that former Contras could benefit from Sandinista policies such as land reform.

The most effective avenue for pursuing a political solution is now the Costa Rican initiative launched by President Arias last month. Unlike Contadora, the Arias proposal has taken US interests into consideration without at the same time being a US initiative. In return for an end to foreign support for the Contras, an appropriate response would be expected from the Sandinistas; this may not lead to the free and fair elections in Nicaragua that western democrats would like to see, but it could bring to an end the bloody civil war, establish the basis for regional peace and let the Reagan administration off the hook. Whatever misgivings policy-makers in Washington may have about the initiative should be tempered by the knowledge that six years of civil war have strengthened, not weakened, the Sandinistas' grip on the state apparatus, while isolating the legal opposition which still speaks for many Nicaraguans.

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The author is a lecturer at Queen Mary College, London, and a senior associate of St Antony's College, Oxford.

Digby Anderson

A loony view of your local

The term "*loony left*" will be part of the political vocabulary for the foreseeable future. Much energy has already been expended estimating how many loonies there are and how much they influence Labour Party policy. Labour columnists deny there are more than three really mad councils and explain that even their insanity comes in isolated bouts surrounded by much social care and job creation. Conservatives warn that the loonies are not genuine loonies but fronts manipulated by Marxists purposely creating social instability.

Indeed communists so influence Labour Party ideas and its leadership that, for example, the Communist Party theoretician Professor Hobsbawm has been acknowledged by Neil Kinnock. There are indeed Labour politicians, particularly among the loonies, who share platforms with communists, support communist newspapers and voice communist ideas. So, in one sense the Conservative critics are right. But, just because the lunacies of racist anti-racism, hysterical feminism, homosexual proselytization and infantile pacifism are manipulated by Marxists, there is no reason to abandon the notion of looniness.

Surely the persistent adherence to Marxism despite its intellectual bankruptcy, economic failure and notable achievements in genocide is not evidence of sanity but itself the supreme looniness. No, the notion of looniness is important and we might well try to understand what exactly makes looniness loony. The clue is not so much that Labour thinks Marxist rather than socialist-democratic but that it thinks as a post-graduate social science student rather than as an ordinary customer in The Red Lion.

In a recent book, *Patriarchy and Pub Culture*, Miss Valerie Hey denounces the pub as "a political institution expressive of deeply held gender ideologies." Women are virtually excluded from it. If they enter, they are viciously humiliated and refused pints of beer. Barmaids are but "classic token women" forced by "appallingly low wages" to rely on male customers' offering drinks which are converted into money.

To get these drinks, barmaids have to be "sociable" and are "thus drawn more and more into a subordinate role, allowing male customers greater access to (their) time and attention." This "sexualized servility" "costs men nothing apart from a few drinks" yet entitles them to female "understanding". Pubs are "masculine republics" where men go for "male bonding" — though they probably shouldn't because such bonding is "a fragile and insecure strategy based on intractable instabilities endemic to patriarchal masculinity."

I don't propose to argue with Miss Hey. Her account is a splendid example of the way that so much of what passes for social science combines the obvious with the fantastic and the obsessional to produce the barmy. And all the ordinary pub-goers to whom I have showed it, of both sexes, recognize it as such. But it does teach important lessons about looniness.

You see, there are some unfortunate people who have lost the capacity to recognize this thinking as loony, and foremost among them are professional thinkers, the academic and political intellectuals. Miss Hey's book is a version of her MA thesis after her post-graduate "Women's Studies" at the University of Kent. One must assume that her supervisors, external academic examiners, the academic referees who evaluated the book for the academically respected Tavistock Publications, Tavistock themselves and those social scientists who have solemnly reviewed it in academic journals do not find her work or those other writings to which she refers such as "Sexual antagonism in Herefordshire", barmy. One only has to peruse social science publications to find endless examples of all such lunacies.

It is ordinary people who have rumbled the loonies. They can see what the intellectuals cannot. They have a nose for it. Intellectuals disapprove of this nose and call it "prejudice". So it is, and all the better for it. For prejudice is simply short-cut thinking based on tradition and habit, that is the accumulated thinking of others. There is nothing wrong with — indeed everything to be said for borrowing the thinking and conclusions which have served others well. And it is precisely when certain intellectuals and ideologues cut themselves off from such knowledge, when they spur socially proven prejudices, when they insist on starting again from scratch with the cultural aid only of a few like minded zealots, that they lose the distinction between sense and lunacy.

This, then, is the essence of "lunacy". This is the link between anti-racist mania, hysterical feminism, homosexual propaganda and blind Marxism. All display contempt for those well-shaped prejudices which make up popular and practical culture. The Labour Party is deeply infected with this contempt. If it does attempt to cure itself, it will find it involves more than getting "closer to the people." It requires taking seriously and treating with respect, even admiration, a form of thinking — prejudice — which so many socialist intellectuals have long despised or seen in need of "correction". To admit the severe limits of intellectuals would, even more than admitting the redundancy of socialism, be the climbdown of the century.

The author is Director of The Social Affairs Unit.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Summer mood in the Commons

Outside, in parliament square, the bare trees and greyness reminded us that the London winter was by no means over yet. But inside, on the Government side of the chamber, the mood was so sunny that it reminded us of June — Thursday, June 11, perhaps, or either of the two Thursdays after that.

If tax cuts were here, could June be far behind? Two Tory backbenchers were actually hidden under summery straw boaters. In the rush of budget day, there is no time to check such things, but it must be assumed that they were the members for Luton, the straw hat-making town. If they were not, there was no excuse. Budget day has always attracted clothes bores.

But nowadays a mercifully tiny number of members now dress up for the occasion. Mr Nicholas Fairbairn (Perth and Kinross, C) wore a kilt. On a distant bench, a Tory with long whiskers sat beneath a Victorian fairground barker's curly-brimmed bowler-hat. Who was he? How do I know? He was buried underneath long whiskers and a curly-brimmed bowler hat.

As we awaited the Chancellor, the floor, the gangways and the galleries steadily filled to the full. Members almost sat on one another. Not just Mr Kinnock. He is used to being sat on by the Prime Minister. She did it to him again yesterday. Budget day or not, it was also Tuesday. This meant that question time, which preceded the budget speech, included the twice-weekly questions to the Prime Minister.

Mr Kinnock made the reasonable point to her that despite our having a Tory Government for nearly eight years the crime figures were still going up hugely. She sat on him nonetheless. Mr Kinnock got up again and rather spoilt the pithiness of his earlier point by launching into a long, sociological discourse which was made even more obscure by Tory jeers.

Above the din, we could occasionally hear Mr Kinnock's Celtic lilt in such well-loved strains as "the social and economic roots of crime..." etc. Labour members sought to protect their leader by shouting at the Tories such slogans as "law and order" and "Harvey Proctor".

The Chancellor rose. Lots of members cheered ironically, but also good-naturedly. This was because it was the Chancellor of Oxford. This Chancellor had no tax cuts to offer, but something far more spiritual: that is, everything meant by the word Oxford — invitations to many a High Table, port passed anti-clockwise. Few members now wish to make an enemy of Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead SDP).

He told Mrs Thatcher that he associated himself with a demand made by Mr Merlyn Rees, the Labour Home Secretary under Mr Callaghan, the previous day. This was that there should be an inquiry into new evidence, arising out of the Wright case, that MI5 had tried to "destabilize" the last Wilson Government, in which Mr Jenkins was Home Secretary.

Mrs Thatcher replied that those claims had already been investigated by the Callaghan Government, something which Mr Rees then got up to deny. We shall hear more of all that, although we shall probably find in the end that the Wilson Government was destablized, not by MI5, by the old enemy of all Labour Governments: the Labour Party.

At last, the other Chancellor. Mr Lawson's wife had been dressed for budget day by the fashion page of the *Daily Telegraph*. She had looked very dashing and elegant. Mr Lawson arrived in a white shirt and grey suit. He looked very cautious and responsible. Perhaps he had been dressed by the editorial page of *The Independent*.

But caution and responsibility are what many of us look for, provided it is only in a Chancellor. Mr Lawson is the only Chancellor for many years to know a lot about economics. That is not vital for the job, as the most famous remark about the office bears out: Lord Derby to Disraeli (on hearing that Disraeli had declined the Exchequer on the grounds that he knew nothing about the subject): "They give you the figures."

But knowledge of economics helps a Chancellor sound convincing. This he did, and he only took an hour in which to do it: the shortest budget speech anyone could remember.

Mr Kinnock wisely did not engage Mr Lawson on the technicalities. Instead, he scoffed confidently when the tax cuts came. Economics is not his subject. But, if you're the Leader of Opposition on budget day, they give you the sniggers.

Light at last on Poland's day of shame

One summer morning in 1946 word went round the Polish town of Kielce that Jews had kidnapped an eight-year-old boy and threatened him with ritual killing. Within hours a big crowd had gathered outside the Jewish tenement in Planty street and rushed in, swinging metal rods. They threw Jews out of windows, trampling them, breaking limbs, beating and murdering. Forty-two died; many others were maimed.

That was the Kielce pogrom, an event that has been banished from Polish history books. Now for the first time journalists are allowed to investigate the slaughter. Such anti-Semitism one year after the war was incomprehensible to a world which had just learnt of the killing of six million Jews by the Germans and the Poles did not encourage deeper inquiry.

At the end of the war about 200 Jews survived in the Kielce region in central Poland; some had come in with the Soviet army, others had been hidden throughout the war by Poles. Only two of the Jews from that time lived into old age.

Unravelling what happened is an elaborate piece of historical detection. The local press carried scanty and sometimes contradictory reports. The newspapers of July 5, 1946, say that several hundred workers were in the crowd, that one of the slogans was "Down with communists and long live Anders" — the Polish general whose men had fought alongside British forces for much of the war.

A Polish news agency reported that among the killers were former soldiers of the Anders army. Some days later the Kielce press said that local security men were partially responsible.

The Polish leadership expressed its abhorrence of the pogrom and put 12 of the 62 arrested on trial. Nine were executed and the other three jailed. Everybody thought that the pogrom had been provoked for some obsucure political purpose: by the security forces, the anti-communist underground, by Moscow, by international Zionism, by the Vatican. The *Daily Rzeczpospolita*, commenting after the verdict, declared: "The hand that raised the sword must be found and punished. The matter must be thoroughly explained and all the guilty provocateurs brought to justice." Those were the last words about the pogrom to be written in the Polish press for four decades."

The local governor, Major Eugeniusz Wislicz, remembers the general mood of the time. The Kielce Jews, he says, were ostentatiously well-off — eating, as he puts it, "white bread and sausage" — at a time when there was abject poverty in Kielce.

They had insisted on their pre-war property being restored and had refused to assimilate, he claims. They were active in the black market, and so a town of "poor, backward people who felt themselves manipulated could easily become a thoughtless, cruel crowd stirred up by a rumour that Jews had killed a Polish boy".

According to the few residents willing to remember, Kielce was already hostile to Jews. Committees of returning Jews were not recognized by the local administration, anti-Semitic posters sprouted overnight, Jewish cemeteries were defaced. Former security officials admit that anti-Jewish venom sometimes spilled over into murder even before the pogrom.

The official explanation is that Nazi attitudes had rubbed off on the local people; but the real reason is both more and less than this. Many communists moving into top positions in the communist movement and the security police were Jews returning from Moscow where some, at least, had had a relatively soft war. Financial envy combined with political resentment.

Interesting fragments emerge about the pogrom as one rakes over memories. Stefan Grzywaczewski, a barrister at the trial, recalls that the defence counsel were given only an hour to read the files, ordered to submit their appeals immediately after the verdict, and these were then quickly rejected.

One of the Jews, Dr Kahane, locked himself into a room during the massacre and rang everybody he could think of, from the bishop to the local Soviet commander, to intervene. The Soviet colonel, runs the story, said that the Poles should cope with the problem by themselves. Kahane was killed still holding the telephone.

The vital link in the mystery is Henryk Blaszczyk, the eight-year-old "kidnap" victim. He still lives in Kielce, in a two-room apartment full of caged parrots. His over-protective mother had warned him that if he strayed from home he would be kidnapped by gypsies or Jews. One day he hitchhiked to a village a few miles away where he had relatives. For two days he stayed with an uncle who eventually realized that Henryk had left home without permission and sent him packing. On his return, to avoid punishment, the boy said he had been held by Jews in a basement and threatened with murder. His father told the police; his brother told the neighbours. Soon most of Kielce was repeating and embellishing the story.

Today Henryk talks to his parrots, living with the guilt of a child's lie. It is easier for the others to forget: the collective grave of the 42 pogrom victims has a stone memorial but the sideplates bearing the names of the murdered Jews have disappeared.

Roger Boyes

TIMES PAST
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A STRATEGY OF CAUTION

Mr Lawson's fourth, and perhaps final, Budget has the imprint of the approaching election clearly upon it. Not that it is a "votes for notes" Budget — far from it. The Chancellor has belied his reputation as a gambler and adopted a cautious strategy using much of the scope available to him to cut next year's borrowing requirement by £3 billion.

But it is also a Budget which keeps the Prime Minister's election options open. The package is relatively simple, there are no complicated new taxes and it should provide a background of falling interest rates and a firm pound for an election called in the near future.

Mr Lawson's achievement has been to make something worthwhile out of this rather dull prescription. When Mrs Thatcher took office in 1979 she was pledged to cut both borrowing and taxes. The dual objective has made for slow progress. Cuts in the basic rate of income tax have in the event been limited to 3p in each Parliament, 2p of which Mr Lawson announced yesterday. But while the Chancellor has not yet reached his target rate of 25p in the pound, he has reached his target level of Government borrowing. Next year's public sector borrowing requirement will be held to one per cent of GDP, £4 billion.

This is an achievement which will certainly please financial markets and probably bring down the mortgage rate. But the City will not view the Budget with pleasure unalloyed.

While the target for the narrow definition of the money supply is maintained at 2-6 per cent, the target for broad money is abandoned. *Monetary policy — until such time as Britain becomes a full member of the European Monetary System — is now based on a single number in which financial markets have little confidence, on movements in the exchange rate as interpreted by the Treasury and the Bank of England and on the simple slogan "trust me".* It is comforting to have the additional security of a firm fiscal policy.

The tax changes which Mr Lawson announced carry forward the themes which the Government has introduced previously. The move away from the wage earner society towards participation and ownership is taken significantly further with the introduction of tax relief for profit-related pay. Mr Lawson has chosen to increase the attractions to the employee substantially beyond those proposed in his consultative document by increasing the proportion of pay eligible for relief from a quarter to a half. This should help to strengthen the link between pay and performance which was so lamentably absent during the 1970s.

Pension privatization is also given a bigger boost than outlined in the consultative document, with proposals to allow members of occupational schemes tax relief on additional voluntary contributions. This should make it easier for people changing jobs to carry their pensions with them.

The mixture is spiced with a *bouquet garni* of measures which everyone can applaud, such as an additional age allowance for the over-eighties, an increase in the blind persons' allowance, some small VAT reliefs for a variety of good causes and tax relief for lead-free petrol.

To have managed to reduce the basic rate by 2p and at the same time reduce the borrowing requirement by £3 billion in a year when public spending has been increased by £4.75 billion is no mean achievement. It is largely due to the *high street boom and reviving* profitability among companies other than in the North Sea. But the Chancellor also painted an attractive outlook for the economy with growth rising this year from 2.5 per cent to 3 per cent and inflation finishing the year only fractionally higher at around 4 per cent. The balance of payments *will continue to reflect the loss* of oil revenue but at £2.5 billion the deficit should be manageable.

From a political point of view, the staggering increase in the scope for fiscal adjustment is ideally timed. In a single election year the Chancellor has contrived more room for manoeuvre than in the rest of the Parliament. He has forced Labour and the Alliance parties to fight on the somewhat unpromising slogan of higher taxes for all.

In economic terms, however, it is to be regretted that the opportunity for such sizeable cuts in taxation has occurred at a time when it is *least convenient to embark on* serious tax reform as well as tax reduction. A sum of £5.5 billion is enough to soothe the pain of extracting quite a lot of special tax breaks. But Mr Lawson has evidently concluded that this is not the year to risk upsetting powerful interest groups or handing easy arguments to political opponents.

THE LAST RESORT

One dilemma which causes parents even more anguish perhaps, if that were possible, than the birth of a mentally handicapped child is the provision of care for that child as he or she grows up and they grow older. Present thinking on the development and welfare of mentally handicapped people tends to favour care in the community over institutional care. While arguably enriching the lives of mentally handicapped people themselves it has, if anything, made the task of parents and other carers more difficult.

Time was when the question of regulating the sexual behaviour of mentally handicapped girls scarcely arose. Boys and girls, men and women, were segregated. They were denied the solace close relationships with the opposite sex provide. But they, and those responsible for their welfare, were also relieved of responsibility for considering the likely consequences of sexual maturity when coupled with mental handicap. Sterilization, of women or men, did not enter the equation.

Now the Court of Appeal has ruled that, in the case of one particular 17-year old girl who is in the care of a local authority and a ward of court, sterilization should be allowed. In a carefully argued judgement, they concluded that sterilization, while an option of last resort, was in the girl's best interests. On balance, and on the limited evidence available, their decision was correct.

The court had to weigh, on the girl's behalf, three rights: her right as a woman to reproduce (a right upheld in a 1976 judgement by Mrs Justice Heilbron); her right to sexual activity and the pleasure she might derive from it; and her right not to be sexually exploited by others. The court judged, on medical advice, that the girl would be unable to look after a child and any pregnancy was likely to be terminated. They judged, further, that the girl would be incapable of drawing any connection between sexual activity and pregnancy, and that other forms of contraception would be unsuitable. They opted for sterilization.

Their judgement has already been criticized, largely by those responsible for the care and welfare of the mentally handicapped. Was sufficient attention given to the suitability of longer term contraceptives — injections with dopoprovera or the insertion of an IUD? Should mentally handicapped people be deprived of the right to bear children quite so easily? Was the girl involved quite so retarded as she was presented; was the prognosis quite so cheerless? All these are valid questions, but they are questions the judges asked themselves and answered to their satisfaction before giving their judgement. More intractable are two questions that were not addressed directly.

The girl in the case was two months short of her eighteenth birthday. At 18 she will cease to be a ward of court and a court will no longer be able to give consent to sterilization on her behalf. Legally, doctors have to obtain the "informed consent" of their adult patients, even when the patient is mentally handicapped. In cases where they cannot do so, they become legally vulnerable. Yet there is no provision for the appointment of a guardian in such cases. This needs to be considered.

The other question that remains open is to what extent the present case sets a precedent. There are said to be many cases of a similar nature waiting on the outcome. But Monday's judgement related only to this particular case, which was — as the judges made clear — determined by the particular circumstances of the girl's medical condition. It does not give doctors a *carte blanche* to sterilize mentally handicapped girls. Sterilization is a last resort. It should remain so.

UN-FINLANDIZATION?

The leaders of Finland's major parties (which almost outnumber the voters) entered a kind of political sauna last night to decide who will run the country from now on. As they prepare to sweat it out over the next two weeks, however, one truth remains unchallenged: the face of Finnish politics is about to change.

How fundamental this change will be is open to question. The grip on power which the centre-left has held since the Second World War has been broken. The Conservatives, nine more MPs to the good after this week's general election, are about to take their place in a ruling coalition for the first time in two decades. The right, of one shade or another, has won a famous victory.

But the Conservatives have led the advance only after moving towards the centre of Finland's political spectrum. They have done so moreover in an election which brought only 75 per cent of the people to the polls — compared with 81 per cent four years ago.

This suggests an electorate which has grown bored rather than one which seeks radical change. Finland's economy has quietly prospered since the war, despite heavy reparation dues to Moscow. Its five million people now enjoy a higher standard of living than in Britain, and social services are generous and efficient. Nor, in a coalition system which requires a two-thirds majority for major legislation, will the new government be free to head off in a completely new direction.

This is the one comforting thought that must be passing through minds in the Kremlin. The Russians have been having a bad time in Finland, where the Communists, so powerful 30 years ago, recently split into two warring factions — a pro-Moscow group and a larger Eurocommunist wing. Not only has a procession of "honest brokers" from Moscow failed to heal the rift, but the Finnish electorate has now delivered its own verdict. The loss of one seat by the revisionist wing and six (more than half) by the pro-Soviet one, has confirmed the diminution of Soviet influence in Helsinki.

Finland is important to Moscow for many reasons — not least trade. The country is the Soviet Union's second largest trading partner outside Comecon, enjoying favoured nation status in return for its positive neutrality.

This pragamatic relationship has recently shown signs of wear and tear. The Finns have become more sympathetic than they used to be to defectors moving West across their frontier. The Russians for their part have shown concern at the ease with which Finnish television can be watched by Soviet citizens in Estonia — where the language is similar enough. Now, according to one view, the worst Russian fears have been realized — new neighbours are moving in next door.

On the other hand, the Soviet Union is changing too, not fundamentally perhaps but enough to blur perceptions of this kind. The maintenance of good relations with a country which has economic value to Moscow (not least as a source for computers banned by Cocom) might now seem more important than any great ideological shift.

This assumes, however, that Finland's foreign policy remains unchanged. Can that assumption be made? There will be much huffing and puffing in the sauna before the complexion of Finland's next government emerges. But it is unlikely to favour bear-baiting as the new national sport for Finns.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Chinese policy towards Tibet

From Mr J. Billington

Sir, It is 28 years this month since Tibet finally lost its fight to remain free before the overwhelming onslaught of Chinese communism. At that time, a mixture of hope and ignorance on the part of the world community combined to ensure that a blind eye was turned to events in Tibet.

There can be no such excuse now. The destruction of over 6,000 monasteries and the near-annihilation of Tibetan culture in Tibet is now well documented and the ruins remain everywhere for the traveller to see. Yet Tibetan culture is unquestionably a spiritual power-house, and the setting up of over 150 monasteries outside Tibet and nearly 200 Dharma centres in the West amply testifies to the industry and creativity of the Tibetan people and to the high regard in which the religion of Tibet is held.

The Dalai Lama is unique among world leaders in his refusal to espouse violence in the pursuit of justice for his people. Tibetans in their own cultural ambience are efficient and enterprising: they must not be allowed to become a quaint museum people like the Red Indians of North America or the Aborigines of Australia — a money-earning tourist attraction for their conquerors.

Despite the well-bruited relaxation in Chinese policy towards Tibet, Tibet today is in desperate straits because of the deliberate swamping of the indigenous population by massive Chinese immigration which reduces the Tibetans to living in ghettos in their own towns and has created a system of apartheid in which Tibetans are constantly disadvantaged.

An act of magnanimity in restoring independence to Tibet would earn China the respect of the world; and credibility in the West regarding China's treaty over Hong Kong would be strengthened if China were to honour the promises it made to the Tibetan people when the People's Liberation Army marched into Tibet in 1951:

> As soon as the Tibetans are able to supply their own needs and rule themselves, the Chinese comrades will return home.

Let them do so now, before they destroy the country they claimed to wish to help. The alternative, if they continue deliberately to obliterate and Sinicize Tibetan culture, will earn them the opprobrium of posterity.

Yours faithfully,
J. BILLINGTON,
10 Burton Road,
Repton, Derbyshire.
March 8.

Benefit of doubt

From Mr G. H. Bolsover

Sir, Those of your readers who feel inclined to follow the advice in Professor Rotblat's letter (March 7) and give Mr Gorbachov the benefit of the doubt about his recent proposal on intermediate-range nuclear missiles would do well to remember that when proposing Mr Gorbachov as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party on the Politburo's behalf in March, 1985, Mr Gromyko is said to have referred to the teeth of steel behind the engaging smile.

Over the years Politburo colleagues of Mr Gorbachov like Messrs Tikhonov, Romanov, Grishin and Kunayev must all have shown something of the flexibility Professor Rotblat recommends and given Mr Gorbachov the benefit of the doubt on various occasions. But since becoming the party's General Secretary two years ago he has ousted all four of them from office one after the other.

This surely suggests that in our own dealings with Mr Gorbachov we need to be much harder headed than they were and not let ourselves start to feel in any sense guilty at not giving him the benefit of the doubt in so crucial a matter as nuclear disarmament.

Yours faithfully,
G. H. BOLSOVER,
7 Devonshire Road,
Hatch End, Middlesex.
March 7.

Fields for scope

From Mr Philip Rowe

Sir, I am surprised that Mr Scales (March 7), a farmworker in east Hertfordshire, never saw an actual farmer humping 16-stone sacks of corn (barley no doubt). If ever he had worked in west Hertfordshire he would have met plenty of farmers who were obsessed with doing as much of the hard physical work on the farm as any of their men.

I am also surprised that anyone should have thought it a hardship to carry the standard four-bushel railway sack which, when full of wheat, weighed 18stone, or 2¼cwt. I have carried plenty; there were and are far more unpleasant jobs on the farm.

Actually if we farmers in west Hertfordshire had spent more time in managing our farms and less time doing labouring jobs we might have been more successful.

Having taken part in nearly 60 harvests, the one I enjoyed most was the last time we still used horses and carts and I pitched all day in the field. There was no machinery to break down.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP ROWE,
Roe End Farm,
Roe End Lane,
Markyate,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.
March 8.

Keeping Latin safe in London

From the Principal of Brixton College

Sir, Your second leader of March 12 asks the question, "Who will stop what is happening in London?" and particularly relates the question to the provision of Latin.

The answer is, Sir, that your leader misinterprets the efforts of the ILEA (Inner London Education Authority) to reorganise its post-16 educational provision into tertiary colleges. The existence of tertiary colleges will ensure that Latin is offered at A level to a much greater range of students than hitherto and that much healthier-sized groups will make Latin teaching more meaningful and relevant.

In this part of London Latin is not seen as an elitist subject but as one that assists entry into certain professions and should, therefore, be available to as many students as possible.

The authority's reorganised provision also envisages individual specialist staff working in the school and college sector, so a greater variety of experience will be available to Latin teachers, not less.

I hope your journal will in future not be so quick to dismiss the ILEA's efforts to improve the quality of its offer and implement equality of opportunity in its institutions.

Yours sincerely,
D. J. GAFFIKIN, Principal,
Brixton College,
Ferndale Road, SW4.
March 13.

From the Headmaster of Highbury Grove School

Sir, In your excellent leading article you rightly draw attention to the plight of classical language-teaching in London's schools and those of many other parts of the country.

They are not, however, the only likely casualties of the form of capital punishment presently proposed for schools with viable and successful sixth forms. Other "minority" subjects will be difficult to sustain at a satisfactory level, if at all; and the problems of staffing some mainstream subjects, such as physics, will become even more severe without the bait of sixth-form (particularly A-level) teaching.

In this school we have already lost one highly qualified and able applicant for a senior science post because of the threat of tertiary reorganisation hanging over the school (a threat we are nevertheless confident of removing).

But the principal casualty of this form of educational press-gang is freedom of choice. Many people are quite prepared to support the establishment of tertiary colleges, where there is a need, provided viable school sixth forms are permitted to coexist with them. If they prove as attractive as their advocates suggest our sixth forms will die a natural death. That we could accept. Public execution is quite another matter!

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE NORCROSS,
Headmaster,
Highbury Grove School,
Highbury New Park, N5.
March 13.

From Mr J. L. Martin

Sir, Your leader is timely. An attitude of what may be called "anti-elitism" has implications for subjects other than Latin. Replacing the difficult by the easy is already perceived as a threat to the wellbeing of, for example, the sciences.

Most of us take it as evident that talents and gifts are irregularly distributed over the population as a whole and that part of the responsibility of education is to recognise potential ability where it exists and to encourage it actively. One cannot avoid the suspicion that some of our educators have set this responsibility aside, in the name of an ill-formulated and ill-understood notion of "equality". I believe we are likely to be the poorer as a result.

I do not believe that being "fashionable" is necessarily a safeguard. I suppose it can be said that the sciences are fashionable at the moment. However, in physics — my own subject — there is already a gentle decline which, though still patchy, is easily discernible.

Who will stop what is happening? Not just in Latin. Not just in London.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN L. MARTIN,
King's College London (KQC),
Department of Physics,
Strand, WC2.
March 12.

From the Principal of Richmond upon Thames College

Sir, Richmond upon Thames is the second smallest education authority in England. All its schools lost their sixth forms more than 15 years ago. Three of the *eight secondary schools* in the authority teach Latin to O level. This tertiary college runs A-level Latin teaching groups of six in each year of the course. Whatever the faults of tertiary colleges, their concentration of resources tends to safeguard minority subjects.

Yours faithfully,
G. ROSPIGLIOSI, Principal,
Richmond upon Thames College,
Egerton Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
March 12.

From Mrs M. S. Barker

Sir, "The lost Latin of London"? Hampshire lost Latin seven years ago: even the local sixth-form college could not provide classes for my 15-year-old's O level.

Solution: mother (credit, School Cert., 1950), 15-year-old and ex-schoolmistress (one hour a week) produced a B grade, much enjoyed by all.

London schools are lucky to have retained the language for so much longer.

Yours faithfully,
M. S. BARKER,
4 St James' Lane,
Winchester, Hampshire.
March 12.

From Mr J. S. Taylor

Sir, Greek and Latin are not dying in this comprehensive school. At present we have 78 pupils studying Greek, 249 studying Latin. Thirteen candidates will be taking both Greek and Latin at A level in June.

Yours sincerely,
J. S. TAYLOR,
St Francis Xavier's School,
High Lee,
Beaconsfield Road,
Liverpool 25.
March 12.

From Mr Alan W. Welch

Sir, In deploring the decline of Latin in Britain's schools, your comment struck a responsive chord. Over half a century ago I was quite properly removed from the Latin class at my west London grammar school on the ground of incompetence.

Now, retired in Devon, I none the less gained in January last an O-level B grade pass in Latin without the benefit of classes — for *there are certainly no Latin classes* for adults in this area. Is for me the appropriate tag: *bis pueri senes*?

Yours sincerely,
ALAN W. WELCH,
6 Broadway Avenue,
Kingsteignton, Devon.
March 12.

From Mr M. C. Fletcher

Sir, Your recent correspondence (March 9, 13) evokes memories of Latin at prep school more than 30 years ago.

Our primer was *First Steps In Latin*, by F. Ritchie. It required little imagination and ink to convert this into *First Steps In Eating*, though even that failed to whet my appetite for the subject.

Yours faithfully,
M. C. FLETCHER,
Westbrook,
Rhinefield Road,
Brockenhurst, Hampshire.
March 13.

Medical compensation

From Mr Peter B. Turvill

Sir, I was pleased to read on page 3 today (March 11) the British Medical Association call for a change to speedy compensation payments to victims of medical accidents.

On March 11, 1986, *The Times* reported an agreed settlement of £600,000 to my severely injured daughter after a 6½-year battle. The legal and medical minefield which it was necessary to cross in order to achieve that settlement was, I hope, unprecedented.

Since the publicity of our settlement I have received numerous requests for help. It is a sad fact that many people, already coping with the victim, will not have the stamina or resources to finally gain compensation for the alleged accident. Our present system denies compensation in such cases, adding injustice to injury.

It should now be changed.

Yours sincerely,
PETER B. TURVILL,
127 Clarence Avenue,
Clapham Park, SW4.
March 11.

Damage limitation

From Mr J. P. G. Lawrence

Sir, Your third leader (March 9) asks, "Why should lawyers and accountants have such protection (limits on damages payments) and manufacturers not?"

The answer is that manufacturers have, for over 100 years, been able to protect their wives and families from catastrophes by incorporating their businesses and thus limit their liability, thanks to that remarkable invention of our Victorian forebears, a limited liability company. Would that lawyers and accountants could do the same, but they are prevented from doing so by regulation.

Lawyers and, I assume, accountants, are not asking for privileged treatment but for a fair share only of the misery caused by the decreasing market in negligence insurance.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK LAWRENCE,
Wragge & Co. Solicitors,
Bank House,
8 Cherry Street,
Birmingham, West Midlands.
March 9.

Evidence on camera

From Mr Peter Bloomfield

Sir, I am sure the Duke of Somerset (March 6) has Switzerland in mind when proposing the use of fixed radar-controlled cameras to identify speeding offenders.

In the Zurich area there are permanent boxes installed at the roadside and above traffic lights. The question is, rather like Russian roulette, whether at the time one passes too fast, or at deep amber traffic lights, there is a camera installed. I believe there are more permanent roadside boxes than there are cameras available.

A blinding flash in one's rear mirror is followed by a payment demand which is not insubstantial. Hence costs and the fear of losing one's licence for a month or more quickly tame aspiring Formula 1 drivers.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BLOOMFIELD
Kurfirstenstrasse 63,
8002 Zurich, Switzerland.
March 6.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 18 1861

The Civil War in America began in April, 1861. Preservation of the Union dominated the thinking of President Lincoln (1809-65). His policy towards slavery was accordingly ambivalent: in August he stated: "My paramount object is to save the Union and not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it."

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S INAUGURAL SPEECH.

NEW YORK, March 5.

The ceremony of Mr Lincoln's inauguration as President took place yesterday at Washington. The following is a summary of the speech delivered by President Lincoln on the occasion:—

After a few preliminary remarks, Mr. Lincoln said,—

"Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property, peace, and personal security are endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such an apprehension. I quote one of my former speeches, in which I declared that 'I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of Slavery in States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right, as I have no inclination, to do so.' Those who nominated and elected me placed on the platform for my acceptance, and as a law for themselves and me, the following resolutions:—

" 'It is resolved that the maintenance, inviolate, of the rights of the States, and especially the rights of each State, to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment, is exclusively essential to that balance of power on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend . . .

" 'We denounce lawless invasion by armed force of any State or territory, no matter under what pretext, as the gravest of crimes.'

"I now reiterate those sentiments, and press it upon public attention that the property, peace, and security of no section are endangered by the incoming Administration. There is much controversy respecting the delivering up of fugitives from service or labour. The following clause is, however, plainly written in the Constitution:—

" 'No person held to service or labour in one State under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labour, but shall be delivered up on the claim of the party to whom such service or labour may be due.'

"To the proposition that slaves whose cases come within the terms of this clause shall be delivered up all members of Congress are bound by oath. I take the official oath today with no mental reservation, and with no purpose of construing the Constitution or laws by any exceptional rules. I enter upon my task under great and peculiar difficulties. The Constitution of our liberal Union, heretofore menaced, is now formidably attacked. I hold that in contemplation of our universal State, and of its Constitution the union of these States is perpetual, and shall continue to execute all its express provisions. Our national Constitution and our Union endure for ever. No State upon its own mere motion can get out of the Union. Resolutions and ordinances to that effect are legally void, and acts of violence within any State or States against the authority of the United States are insurrectionary or revolutionary, according to circumstances. I therefore consider the Union as unbroken, and to the extent of my ability I shall take care that the laws of the Union are fully executed in all the States. I trust this will not be regarded as a menace, but only, as a declared purpose of union, that will be constitutionally defended, maintains itself. In doing this there shall be no bloodshed nor violence, unless forced upon the national authority. The power confided in me shall be used to hold, occupy, and to possess property and places belonging to the Government and to collect the duties imposed. Beyond what is necessary for these objects there will be no invasion or force. Where the hostility to the United States is so great and universal as to prevent citizens from holding offices there will be no attempt to force obnoxious strangers among people who object. The mails, unless repelled, will continue to be furnished to all parts of the union. I understand that a proposed amendment to the Constitution has passed Congress, to the effect that the Federal Government shall never interfere with the domestic institutions of States, including that of persons held to service. I will say that I have no objection to this amendment being made express and irrevocable."

After an appeal to all parties to consider the subject well and calmly, Mr. Lincoln concluded as follows:—

"In your hands, dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. Government will not assail you, so that you can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the Government, while I shall have most solemnly to protect and defend it. I am loth to close thus. We are not enemies, but friends, and we must not be enemies . . ."

Hot under the collar

From Mr S. E. T. Cockshutt

Sir, Could Mr Truelove (March 12) please let me know where he gets his collars laundered so cheaply, at £1.20 each? Mine cost £1.50!

Yours truly,
S. E. T. COCKSHUTT,
8 Serbin Close, E10.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 17: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

Captain Manbahadur Gurung and Captain Balkrishna Rai (The Queen's Gurkha Orderly Officers) had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested them with the Insignia of Members of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Right Hon Margaret Thatcher, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning presented the 1987 British Design Awards at the Business Design Centre, Islington, N10.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Life Member of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers, this afternoon at Buckingham Palace presented The Prince Philip Award for 1986 and Certificates of Merit for Research and Development in the Field of Dairy Farming.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this evening attended a dinner at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, where His Royal Highness was received by the Vice-Commodore (Mr Owen Aisher).

Major Rowan Jackson, RM was in attendance.

The Duchess of York this evening attended a performance of *Swan Lake* by the Northern Ballet, at the Theatre Royal, Bath.

Her Royal Highness was received by Major the Lord Darling (Deputy Lieutenant for Avon) and the Mayor of Bath (Councillor Sam Jane).

Miss Helen Hughes was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips today rode Aldaniti over one mile at Cheltenham Racecourse in aid of the Bob Champion Cancer Trust.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this evening attended the Honorary Fellows' Dinner at the Athenaeum Club, Pall Mall, SW1.

Her Royal Highness and Captain Mark Phillips were received by the Trustee of the Society (Sir Francis Pemberton) and the Deputy President (Mr J. Harris).

The Countess of Lichfield was in attendance.

The Queen was represented by the Viscount Long (Lord in Waiting) at the Memorial Service for Sir Terence Garvey (formerly Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Moscow) which was held in the Priory Church of St Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, EC1 this afternoon.

Lady Rose Baring has succeeded Lady Susan Hussey as Lady-in-Waiting to The Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 17: Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother this morning presented Shamrock to the Irish Guards at Chelsea Barracks on the occasion of the St Patrick's Day Parade.

Lady Angela Oswald, Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt, and Captain Niall Hall were in attendance.

Lady Angela Oswald has succeeded Miss Jane Walker-Okeover as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 17: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning presided at a meeting of The Prince's Council at 10 Buckingham Gate, SW1 and subsequently, with The Princess of Wales, Duchess of Cornwall, entertained members of the Council and Duchy Land Stewards to luncheon at Kensington Palace.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited an exhibition of Contemporary Architecture in the Traditional Classical Style at the Building Centre Gallery, Store Street, WC1.

The Prince of Wales this evening attended a dinner at the Royal Thames Yacht Club to mark the appointment of His Royal Highness as Admiral of the Club.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Anderson was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this evening attended a gala performance of the jazz ballet *Night Creature* by the London Festival Ballet at the Hippodrome, Leicester Square.

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and the Hon Rupert Fairfax were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 17: The Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Educational Corps, today visited the Tidworth Garrison, Wiltshire.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Euan McCorquodale.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 17: The Duke of Kent this evening attended a Dinner given by Crown Prince Henri of Luxembourg at The Savoy Hotel, London WC2.

Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Sunshine Coach Scheme, today attended a luncheon at The Hilton Hotel to mark the funding of 100 Sunshine Coaches by Tesco plc.

Miss Sarah Partridge was in attendance.

Princess Anne will visit the Allergy and Environmental Medicine Department at the Lister Hospital, Chelsea Bridge Road, SW1, on April 2.

Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend a council meeting of the fund at Mary Datchelor House, Grove Lane, Camberwell, on April 2, and a luncheon afterwards.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Game Conservancy Trust, will visit the ARC Wildfowl Centre, Great Linford, Buckinghamshire, on April 2.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the High Wycombe Judo Centre on April 2.

Princess Anne will visit the Ladywell Centre for Physically Handicapped People at 148 Dressington Avenue, Brockley, on April 2.

Princess Anne, President of the Federation Equestre International, will attend an IOC Executive Committee meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, on April 24.

The Duke and Duchess of York will visit Jersey on May 2 and 3.

Princess Anne, President of the Missions to Seamen, will open the new Missions to Seamen Club at Flushing, The Netherlands, on May 18.

A memorial service for Mr R.P. Heppel will be held at St James's, Piccadilly, at 11.30 today.

A memorial service for Mr Hilary Magnus, QC, will be held in the Chapel of Lincoln's Inn at 5pm today.

A memorial service for Mr Charles Kemp will be held in the Chapel of Reading School on Saturday, April 4, at 11.00 am. For further information please telephone 0734 61406.

Dinners

HM Government
Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Lady Howe were hosts yesterday at a dinner at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the President of the European Parliament and Lady Plumb.

Middle Temple
Lord Templeman, Treasurer of the Middle Temple, and the Masters of the Bench gave a dinner in hall yesterday, it being the Grand Day of Easter Term. The guests were:
Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, Lady Russell of Killowen, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lady Templeman, Lady Wien, Mr Justice Kenneth Jones (treasurer, Gray's Inn), Sir Alec Jarratt, Sir Peter Lane, Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, Sir Geoffrey and Lady Littler, Judge Hawser, QC (treasurer, Inner Temple), Canon Joseph Robinson (Master of the Temple), Major-General T W Carrick, Mr Harvey White, Miss Jean Austin and Rear-Admiral J R Hill (under treasurer, Middle Temple) and Mrs Hill.

Chartered Surveyors' Company
Mr M.E. Taylor, Master of the Chartered Surveyors' Company, presided at a dinner held last night at Carpenters' Hall. He received the guests with Mr S.K. Knowles, Senior Warden, and Mr Robert Steel, Junior Warden. Lord Camoys and Mr A. Beaumont-Dark, MP, also spoke. The guests included:
Sir Zelman Cowen, QC, the High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire (Mr P. Dingley), B L Morgan, Major G W Hodgson and the Masters of the Vintners', Carpenters', Glaziers', Paviors' and City of London Solicitors' Companies.

Gardeners' Company
Mr A.B. Hurrell, Master of the Gardeners' Company, assisted by His Honour G.F. Leslie and Mr E.G. Chandler, Wardens, presided at a dinner held last night at Painter-Stainers' Hall. The other speakers were Sir George Waller, Mr David Emms and Mr N. Chalmers.

Highland Society of London
The Hon George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Highland Society of London held last night at the Caledonian Club. The Duke of Argyll, president, was in the chair. Among those present were:
Lord Campbell of Croy, Major the Hon Alastair Campbell, Sir Hamish Forbes, Sir Francis Head, Sir David Montgomery, Sir Donald Cameron of Lochiel, Mr Justice Mars-Jones, Major-General P W Graham, the Very Rev Dr J Fraser McLuskey, Judge Byrt, QC, the Macleod of Macleod, Mr Ranald Macdonald of Clanranald and Mr Patrick Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw.

Institution of Chemical Engineers
The annual dinner of the Institution of Chemical Engineers was held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. The president, Professor R.G.H. Prince, and council welcomed as the principal guests and speakers Sir Denis Rooke, Chairman of the British Gas Corporation and Professor E.A. Ash, Rector of Imperial College of Science and Technology.

Service dinner

Liverpool University Air Squadron
Squadron Leader K.J. Lawry presided at the annual dinner of Liverpool University Air Squadron held last night at the Officers' Mess, Altcar. The guest of honour was Air Vice-Marshal D.B. Leech, Commandant General, RAF Regiment, and Director-General of Security (RAF), and the other guests were the Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University, the Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University and the AOC and Commandant of RAF College Cranwell.

Reception

Duchy of Cornwall
Sir Nicholas Henderson, Lord Warden of the Stannaries, was host at a reception held last night at 10 Buckingham Gate to mark the 650th anniversary of the Duchy of Cornwall.

Meeting

Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society
Dr John M. Roberts, Warden of Merton College, Oxford, addressed members and guests of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society yesterday evening at Manchester University. Dr N.P. Mallick, president, was in the chair.

Luncheon

HM Government
Mr Tim Eggar, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Wajid Ali Khan Panni, Deputy Foreign Minister of Bangladesh.

St Paul's Girls' School

The following first year awards have been made to take effect from September 1987:
Music awards: Laura Samuel, St Paul's Junior School, Kingston upon Thames; Gemma Wignall, Norland Place School, Holland Park.
Awards: Harriet Browne, St Paul's Girls' Preparatory School; Clare Burn, Roehampton Church School; Chatsuda Chirakul, St Paul's Girls' Preparatory School; Abigail Faulkner, St Paul's Girls' Preparatory School; Joanna Lee, Kensington Preparatory School; Luisa Smith, Kensington Preparatory School; Megan Whelan, Montpelier Middle School, Ealing; Lucy Young, St Paul's Girls' Preparatory School.

Inner Temple

Mr D.W. Keene, QC, has been elected a Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Sale room

Royal bid for portrait fails

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's scored a sensational price for an enamel portrait of Henry VIII yesterday and it was widely suggested that the Royal Family had been trying to buy the piece, but failed.

The 13-inch enamel is a copy made in 1823 by Henry Bone of a famous portrait of Henry VIII by Holbein and made £52,800 (estimate £8,000-£12,000). Bone came from Devon and was much in demand among the aristicracy for his enamel copies in miniature of their family portraits. Most stately homes still have a Bone or two about them.

The Henry VIII is a copy of a portrit at Ditchley and is one of the largest enamels made by Bone, an extraordinary technical feat requiring 40 or so firings of different colours in the correct order. It was bought by a private collector.

The other surprise price of the sale of portrait miniatures was the £16,500 (estimate £3,000-£4,000) for the head and shoulders of a magnificently uniformed officer of the Royal Horse Artillery by George Chinnery.

Here it was the fame of Chinnery as an artist, particularly his charming watercolours of China, that sent the price well above expectations. Prices, however, were strong throughout the sale with a total of £253,748 and only four per cent unsold.

Italian majolica has been keenly collected for more than a century and important pieces rarely come on the market. The good group at Sotheby's yesterday was thus an event and prices ran accordingly.

There were two very rare wet drug jars, both dated 1501 and decorated in characterisitc Deruta style. One jar, with vignette portraits of a young man and a young woman, sold for £39,600 (unpublished estimate £30,000-£40,000) and the second, with scrolling foliage and grotesques, for £35,200 (unpublished estimate £30,000-£40,000).

Such is the shortage of majolica that even eighteenth century pieces are now hotly competed for, where they would have been considered late and decadent a decade ago. A rare signed Castelli plaque dated 1727 and painted with a romantic landscape made £14,300 (estimate £3,000-£5,000).

There were also some high prices among the Meissen porcelains, which have been quite difficult to sell recently. A silver-gilt mounted Böttger coffee pot, with elegant *Hausmaler* decoration, made the top price in the sale at £41,800 (estimate £12,000-£18,000). The sale totalled £675,115 with 12 per cent left unsold.

As Sutton Place, the Tudor mansion near Guildford in Surrey, is stripped for transfer from one American millionaire, Stanley Seeger, to another, Fred Koch, its remaining contents were for sale at Sotheby's Sussex rooms yesterday.

A late sixteenth century portrait of Lord and Lady Abergavenny secured £21,450 (estimate £5,000-£7,000), and a late sixteenth century Brussels tapestry, depicting an episode from the story of Scipio, made £12,100 (estimate £10,000-£15,000).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.J. Edmondson and Miss O. Dansie
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of the Hon Anthony Edmondson, of East Knoyle, Wiltshire, and Mrs Olivia Bovill, of Wincanton, Somerset, and Olivia (Liddy), fifth daughter of Dr and Mrs Charles Dansie, of Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

Mr J. Márffy and Miss A.M.E. Lewis
The engagement is announced between Joseph, son of Mr and the Hon Mrs Márffy, of Mvurwi, Zimbabwe, and Anne, daughter of Colonel and Mrs A.W.D. Lewis, of Salcombe, south Devon and Canberra, Australia.

Mr D.B. Noble and Miss V.A. Wetherall
The engagement is announced between David Brunel, elder son of Sir Marc and Lady Noble, of Deerleap House, Knockholt, Kent, and Virginia Ann, younger daughter of the late Mr Roderick Wetherall and of Mrs Wetherall, of Platt Oast, St Mary's Platt, Kent.

Mr B.E. Constable and Miss C.E.M. Pullen
The engagement is announced between Barry, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E. Constable, of West Molesey, Surrey, and Catherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Pullen, of East Carlton Park, Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

Mr I.C. Cook and Miss A.S. Davis
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs S.G. Cook, of Strete, Devon, and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs B.L. Davis, of San Pedro De Alcantara, Spain.

M A.R.J. Herrenschmidt and Miss D. Vincent
The engagement is announced between André, elder son of M Jean-Roger Herrenschmidt, of Paris, and Mme Carol Herrenschmidt, of Bath, Avon, and Daphne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs H.A. Vincent, of Chepstow Place, London, W2.

Mr D.L. Hunt and Miss C.M. Mulchrone
The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs E.M.L. Hunt, of Esher, Surrey, and Colette, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Mulchrone, of Chalk, Kent.

Dr D.J. Lomas and Dr R.J. Steward
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr Geoffrey J. Lomas, of Kirby Steven, Cumbria, and Mrs Sheila J. Lomas, of Hazel Grove, Cheshire, and Rebecca Jane, eldest daughter of the Rev Alan and Mrs Steward, of Batten, Haileybury, Hertfordshire.

Mr R.N. Luck and Miss J.E. Bradley
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr R.J. Luck and the late Mrs H.M. Luck, of Maidens Green, Berkshire, and Jennifer, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J.A. Bradley, of Shepshed, Leicestershire.

Mr T.C.U.M. Lundstrom and Mrs E. Cooper-Key
The engagement is announced between Thomas, eldest son of the late Mr Ulf Lundstrom and Mrs Birgit Lundstrom, of Filipstad, Sweden, and Anna, eldest daughter of Count and Countess Wilhelm Wachtmeister, of Washington DC, United States.

Mr A. May and Miss C. Leaf
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr R. May and of Mrs W. Newman, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Leaf.

Mr G.M. Sharp and Miss C.L. Babonean
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robin Sharp, of Staplehurst, Kent, and Caroline, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald Babonean, of Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Mr J.R.W. Wilder and Miss R.A. Vincent
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.H.W. Wilder, of St Lucians, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, and Rachel, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W.T. Duncan Vincent, of Simpsons Farm House, Burghfield, Berkshire.

Marriage

Mr J.A.A. Mains and Mrs J.H. Gornall
The marriage took place quietly in Dorset, on Saturday, March 14, between Mr Jeremy Mains, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs A.A. Mains, and Mrs Joanna Gornall, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.E.S. Woodhouse.

Birthdays today

Major D.H. Butter, 67; Mr Pat Eddery, 35; Sir William Fraser, 58; Sir Peter Harrop, 61; Mr Alex Higgins, 38; Mr Patrick Kavanagh, 64; Sir Robin McAlpine, 81; Professor Sir Gordon Robson, 66; Mr Alan Sapper, 56; the Hon John Silkin, MP, 64; Mr Keith Stock, 30; Lord Strathspey, 75; Mr John Updike, 56.

Memorial meeting

Sir Ivan Magill
A memorial meeting for Sir Ivan Magill was held yesterday at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields. Dr Aileen K. Adams, Dean of the Faculty of Anaesthetists, presided and Dr Cyril Scurr, the Earl of Perth, President of Houghton Fishing Club, and Dr J. Alfred Lee were the speakers.

Memorial service

Professor J. Brown
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Julian Brown was held yesterday in the Chapel of King's College London. The Very Rev Sydney Evans officiated and gave an address. The Rev Professor U.E. Simon read the lesson and the Dean of King's College London pronounced the blessing.

Latest wills

Professor Harry Jones, FRS, of Richmond, Surrey, emeritus professor of mathematics at London University and an authority on solid state physics, left estate valued at £259,682

Mr Cathcart Beckett Garner, of Southsea, Hampshire, left estate valued at £559,956 net. After bequests totalling £16,500, he left the residue equally between Portsmouth Cathedral, the Royal College of Surgeons, Cancer Research Campaign and the Mission to Seamen.

Sir Neil Sutherland, of Wickham Market, Suffolk, formerly Chairman of the Marconi Company, left estate valued at £132,902 net.

Fettes College

As a result of the recent examinations, the following scholarships (in order of merit) have been awarded for 1987:
Chenevix-Trench memorial scholarship: Claudia Parsons (Wladeshaws House School, Pulborough). Joannides scholarship: Richard Llewellyn (St Martin's School, York). Knox-Cunninghame scholarship: Robin McCoubrey (Fettes Junior School). Fettes scholarship: Christopher Phillips (Fettes Junior School). Mitchell Watson scholarship: Rupert Alston (Old Buckenham Hall School, Ipswich). Fullarton Cann scholarship: Ken Imami (Fettes Junior School). Crawford music scholarship: Alistair McLean (Fettes Junior School). Music scholarship and minor scholarship: Nicholas Miller (Fettes Junior School). Music scholarship: Susan Young (Fettes Junior School).

Appointments



General Sir John Akehurst.

Lieutenant-General Sir John Akehurst to be Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe in June, in the rank of general, in succession to General Sir Edward Burgess.
Professor R.D. Davies, of Jodrell Bank, to be President of the Royal Astronomical Society from March 13, in succession to Professor D. Lynden-Bell, FRS.
Professor Trevor Smith to be Chairman of the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust, in succession to Mr Michael Rowntree.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron and Trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, attends receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the gold standard at 11.30 and 4.00.
The Prince and Princess of Wales visit the Cleveland Enterprise Centre, Catcote Road, Hartlepool, at 10.15, and open Tolarum Polymers, Brenda Road, Hartlepool, at 10.55. Later the Prince visits the ITEC Training Centre, Church Street, Hartlepool, at 11.45. The Princess visits the Red Cross Headquarters, Park Road North, Middlesbrough, at 11.55. Afterwards they open Tabuchi Electric UK on Teeside Industrial Estate, Thornaby, Stockton, at 12.35. The Prince of Wales then launches the European Year of the Environment at Cargo Fleet Wharf, Middlesbrough, at 2.05; visits Jack Taylor Cycles, Church Road, Stockton, at 2.50; and Harker and Sons (Engineers), Church Road, Stockton, at 3.25.
Princess Anne, President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, attends a council meeting at 35 Belgrave Square, SW1, at 10.30.
The Duke of Kent visits the Sira Group of Companies, South Hill, Chislehurst, Kent, at 11.
The Duchess of Kent visits the Yehudi Menuhin School at Cobham, Surrey, at 2.20.
Prince Michael of Kent, as President of the Institute of Motor Industry, will present the Castrol/IM Gold Medal Award at the Savoy Hotel at 12.00.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Grover Cleveland, twenty-second (1885-89) and twenty-fourth (1893-97) President of the United States, Caldwell, New Jersey, 1837; Stephen Mallarmé, poet, Paris, 1842; Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov, Tikhvin, Russia, 1844; Neville Chamberlain, Prime Minister 1937-40, Birmingham, 1869; Wilfred Owen, poet, Oswestry, Shropshire, 1893.
DEATHS: Robert Walpole, first Earl of Orford, statesman, London, 1745; Laurence Sterne, author of *Tristram Shandy*, London, 1768; Eleutherios Venizelos, Prime Minister of Greece 1910-20, Paris, 1936; Farouk I, King of Egypt 1936-52, Rome, 1965.
Six agricultural labourers from Tolpuddle in Dorset were sentenced to transportation for forming a trade union, 1834.

OBITUARY

MR HUGH POCOCK

Early strides in wireless

Mr Hugh Pocock, one of the last survivors of those who worked with the new-fangled medium of wireless communication before the First World War, died on March 16. He was 92.

Hugh Shellshear Pocock was born on May 6, 1894, into an artistic London family: his father, Lexden, was a painter.

His first contact with wireless was when, disappointed of a university education because of his father's failing health, he heard a drawing-room lecture on the marvels of the new invention and became fascinated by it.

He took out one of the earliest experimental wireless licences and began to transmit and receive messages at his Maida Vale home.

This practical enthusiasm led to his first job, in 1913, as an editorial assistant to the Marconi Company, which was then preparing the first issue of *Wireless World*.

The new magazine appeared but, within a year, war had broken out, and Pocock was commissioned in the Royal Engineers and posted to a wireless intelligence unit.

From a listening-post high on the Wiltshire Downs above Devizes - a 400-foot wireless mast which Pocock often climbed - German signals to the High Seas fleet and Zeppelins crossing the North Sea to attack London were being intercepted by 1916, and positions plotted in conjunction with other listening-posts.

Given command of a similar unit bound for Mesopotamia, Pocock was stationed at Baghdad, where he met and married Mayda Sévian, an Armenian refugee from the massacres in Turkey. He also served in Persia and Egypt, and was mentioned in despatches.

He returned to London in 1920, and was appointed editor of *Wireless World*, but he cast his net much wider than journalism.

In 1921, he helped organize the first short-wave amateur trans-Atlantic tests, and two years later organized the first trans-Atlantic broadcasting trials. On the strength of these trials, Pocock proposed short-wave broadcasting throughout the Empire.

This was, at first, opposed by the BBC, but he became a confidant of Sir John Reith, the director-general, who found his views based firmly on technical knowledge and free of political bias.

He was involved in the development of television, and regarded radar as the most significant advance in his field since the invention of wireless. Of this he had had an early inkling in the 1930s when, during cross-Channel transmission trials, which he attended, wireless signals were found to bounce back to the transmitter.

Despite changes in the ownership of the magazine group, Pocock continued to hold senior editorial and managerial posts on both *Wireless World* and *The Electrical Review*, and he became chairman of the group and a director of Associated Iliffe Press Ltd.

He was a handsome, courtly man and a respected and popular figure in the fields of wireless and electronics.

After his retirement, in 1962, he gave more of his time to his life-long interest in genealogy which had, when he was following his own family's history, prompted contributions to the publications of historical societies concerned with his ancestors' territory in London and Berkshire.

DR SEYMOUR REYNOLDS

Dr Seymour Reynolds, Dean of Charing Cross Hospital Medical School from 1962 to 1976, died on March 1. He was 75.

He was born on April 26, 1911, the son of Russell J. Reynolds, the pioneer radiologist. He went to Westminster School, Trinity College, Cambridge, and Charing Cross Hospital Medical school.

After house appointments at Charing Cross Hospital, and a period as a demonstrator at Cambridge, he committed himself to diagnostic radiology.

He succeeded his father as physician to the radiological department of Charing Cross Hospital in 1945, eventually becoming director of radiology, the post he held until his retirement in 1976.

He laid the foundations for the hospital's new X-ray department. Despite his many commitments, however, his involvement in radiological training never abated, and he always found time to lecture to trainee radiologists and radiographers.

It was, however, as Dean of Charing Cross Hospital Medical School that he made his most noteworthy contribution.

During his period in office the medical school and associated hospital were re-built in their present form on the site of the old Fulham Hospital. Also, the pre-clinical departments of the school were saved from extinction when medical education was being examined by the Todd Commission.

With the move to Fulham, the character of the medical school changed from what was affectionately referred to as "the smallest, dirtiest and friendliest medical school in London" to one of the most spacious, modern and best equipped. But Reynolds did much to ensure that the characteristic friendliness survived.

His deanship was crowned towards its end by the opening, by the Queen Mother, of a building named after him.

He served on the hospital's board of governors from 1962 to 1976 and on the Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow Area Health Authority from 1974 to 1976. He was also consultant to many other hospitals.

A quiet, kind and cautious man, and a wise counsellor, he was not given to effusiveness, but once a friendship was made, it lasted.

He leaves his widow, Margaret, and a son.

MR HAROLD OSBORNE

Mr Harold Osborne, for many years influential in British aesthetics, died in Switzerland on March 13. He was 82.

He will be especially remembered for series of Oxford Companions he edited, on art and related topics.

Harold Osborne was born on March 1, 1905. After attending Wakefield Grammar School, he went as a classical scholar to Trinity Hall, Cambridge; there he specialized in philosophy.

He continued his philosophical studies under the guidance of C.D. Broad, with whom he shared a kind of melancholy reserve and fastidious attachment to the bachelor life.

He served in the Political Intelligence Department during the war, after which he was posted to the British embassy at La Paz, Bolivia.

Here he pursued his scholarly interests and, on his return to England, he produced, in 1952, a striking ethnographical study, *Indians of the Andes*.

This, though its passion for its subject was acknowledged, drew some criticism of its sometimes cavalier approach to detail. A more general study, *Bolivia: A Land Divided*, appeared in 1954.

Osborne's years in South America awoke in him an enthusiasm for the native art of the region, and this combined with another - that for aesthetics.

He perceived that aesthetics had been woefully neglected by the new schools of analytical philosophy, and joined with Sir Herbert Read in founding, in 1950, the British Society of Aesthetics.

He was appointed editor of the society's journal, through which (while working simultaneously at the Board of Trade) he encouraged research and discussion in the subject.

Under Osborne's influence, art, rather than aesthetic experience, became the subject matter of British aesthetics, and the interests of the connoisseur were made continuous with those of the scholar.

He wrote numerous books on the subject - including *The Theory of Beauty* (1952), *Aesthetics and Criticism* (1955) and *Aesthetics and Art Theory* (1968). The latter, in particular, was widely admired.

Osborne also undertook major editing tasks, including such standard reference works as *The Oxford Companion to Art*, *The Oxford Companion to the Decorative Arts* and *The Oxford Companion to 20th Century Art*. These drew on the erudition he had acquired while supporting himself as a businessman and civil servant.

In 1978 Osborne retired to Switzerland, where he had business interests.

He was briefly married, but maintained to the end of his life the donnish aloofness which sorted so oddly with his love of beauty.

MR RICHARD LEVINSON

Mr Richard Levinson, American script-writer, died on March 12, aged 52.

He had a hand in much forgettable television detective fodder, such as *Mannix* and *McCloud*, which found its way across the Atlantic onto British screens.

A pleasant exception to this morass of mediocrity was *Columbo*, in which Peter Falk played a zany detective, whose apparent naïveté was his deadliest weapon against the defensive mechanisms of the rich and the haughty.

Levinson was also involved in the series *Murder, She Wrote*, a pale imitation of the Agatha Christie-inspired *Miss Marple*.

Mr E. D. Nixon, veteran civil rights campaigner, who helped to organize the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott led by Martin Luther King, has died at the age of 87.

During the 1920s he also had a hand in organizing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and, after the Second World War, set up a club for black GIs.

THE HISTORY OF BRITAIN ACCORDING TO PUNCH? THEY MUST BE JOKING.



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Edwin: "NOTHING, DARLING. ONLY DARLING, DARLING!"

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Horticulture

Drifts of primulas and Lenten roses

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

The Royal Horticultural Society's early spring show at Westminster is a galaxy of miniature bulbs, primulas, alpines, camellias and rhododendrons.

Edrom Nurseries, of Coldingham, Berwickshire, has drifts of chalk-blue *Primula whitei* varieties, and a pale grey-blue reticulata iris, 'Frank Elder', a much clearer colour than the better-known 'Katherine Hodgkin'.

Hellebores or Lenten roses are much in evidence and part of the national collection is being shown by the Hampshire group of the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens, including some unusual yellow varieties like 'Primrose' and hybrids of *H.odorus*. They gained a gold medal.

Butterfields Nurseries, of Bourne End, Buckinghamshire, also took a gold medal, showing pleiones (hardy orchids) including the unusual pale yellow 'Shantung' and the orangey Brigadoon 'Woodcock'.

In the RHS early camellia competition, D. and R. Strauss, of Stonehurst, Sussex, scooped all the first prizes in the division for sprays of flowers. They are showing in several classes the bright crimson *Camellia japonica* 'Wildfire', and *C. reticulata* 'Arch of Triumph' with huge bright cyclamen pink flowers.

In the division for blooms, the first prizes have been shared by D. and R. Strauss and the Duke of Devonshire, of Chatsworth House, Derbyshire. Among the duke's many blooms is the large, palest pink *Camellia japonica* 'Mrs D. W. Davis', a particularly outstanding variety.

R. H. Stevenson Clarke, of Borde Hill, Sussex, is a leading prize winner in the RHS early rhododendron competition, with the lilac *R. praeveraum* featuring in several classs. Other leading prize winners are Mrs A. H. Potter, of Wentworth, Surrey, and the City of Swansea, which is showing the unusual *Rhododendron* 'Hodconeri', a large-leaved variety with cream bell-shaped flowers striped with pink.

The award of merit has been given to *Guzmania* 'Omar Morobe', with cream and green striped, flushed pink foliage, shown by Cannington College, Bridgwater, Somerset.

The show is open today from 10 am to 5 pm.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

The heavens shall praise thy wonders, O Lord: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.
Psalm 89 : 5

BIRTHS

ARMSTRONG - On March 16th 1987, at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, to Katie (née Andrew) and Alan, a daughter.

CARTER - On March 16th, 1987 in Jersey, C.I., to Emma (née Khaban) and Christopher, a son, a brother for Thomas and Alastair.

DANGERFIELD - On March 5th 1987, at St Thomas's Hospital, to Elizabeth and Stephen, the safe arrival of Nicholas James.

DOODSON - On Friday March 13th 1987 to Sally (née Crompton) and Mike of South Godstone, a daughter, Rebecca Harriet Moorea.

DORRITY - On February 19th, to Sally (née Sherman), and Iain, a daughter, Fionntuala Helga.

GREEN-WILKINSON - On March 13th, to Caroline (née Bollard) and Simon, a daughter Victoria Emily.

HALLSTROM - On March 11th, to Diana (née Buckland) and Cosmo, a daughter Sophie Josephine Clare.

HARPER - On March 15th, to Susan and Michael, a son Jack William.

HARTZELL - On March 7th, at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital, to Janis (née Hall) and Peter, a son, Edmund Howard Graham, a brother for Elizabeth.

HEDGER - On March 11th, to Kathy (née McDonald) and André, a son André Robert, a brother for Helen and Lucy.

HILL - On March 16th, 1987 to Jan and David, a daughter, Katharine Martha

HOPE - On March 15th, at St Paul's, Cheltenham, to Caroline and Andrew, a son James Andrew John

MARSHALL - On March 12th, 1987, at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, to Kathryn (née Harding), and Adam, the gift of a son, Iain Whitehorn.

O'NEILL - On March 10th, at The West Middlesex Hospital, to Carolyn (nee Galpin) and Nigel, a daughter, Alexandra Mary Carys.

ROBERTSON - On March 5th at Kingston Hospital to Jane (née Shepherd) and Iain, a son Rory Ogilvie.

ROBINSON - On March 15th, 1987 at West Hill Hospital, Dartford, to Ann (née Harden) and Stephen, a son Michael Stephen, a brother for Mathew, Zoe and Andrew.

ROPER - On March 10th, to Sarah-Jane (née Prior) and David, two daughters, Lucy and Alexandra.

SWEETING - On March 7th, to Jane and Gerard a son, Frederick Humfrey Oliver de Rin, a brother for Henry.

TINDALL - On Friday March 13th, at Cambridge, to Johanna and Alan, the gift of a son, Jamie Alexander, a brother for Anna.

WILLIAMS - On 14th March 1987, at Treliske Hospital, Truro, to Joanna (née Cunningham), and Hugh, a son Henry Rupert, a brother for Sophie.

WINCHESTER - On March 13th 1987, to Clare (née Behn) and Stuart, a son, Charles William Richard, a brother for Amy.

YARNOLD - On March 11th, to Susan (née Miller) and Barney, a son Owen William, a brother for Rebecca.

MARRIAGES

CROSS MITCHELL - On 14th March 1987, at 20 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh by Rev Bill Brockie, David to Catherine.

DEATHS

AITKEN - On March 15th, peacefully at home. (Sandy) Alastair Robert Innes, former County Architect of Lincolnshire. Much loved husband of Wendy, father of Charles and James, and father in law of Michaela. Funeral service at All Saints Church, Branston, Lincoln, at 2.00pm Friday March 20th. Flowers to the Church, donations to the Lincolnshire Old Churches Trust. Tel (0522) 793287.

ALLEN - On 14th March 1987, Dorothy Helena, only child of the late Alfred Jessie Score Allen and his wife Florence Allen (née Wadsworth). Cremation to take place at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium at 12 Noon on Tuesday 24th March. No flowers, donations to Cancer Research. Memorial Service at Sutton Parish Church at a later date. Enquiries to R Jarvis, High Street, Cross in Hand, Heathfield, East Sussex. Tel: 04352 2833.

BENDALL - On March 11th, peacefully, Stella, aged 87. Nanny Wolfson for 35 years. Dearly loved and sadly missed by all her children.

BOATH - On March 14th 1987, Brenda (née Robinson) at Harpenden Memorial Hospital. Beloved wife of Peter, mother of David and Richard and their families, daughter of Wilfred, and sister of Peter. Cremation at West Herts Crematorium, Garston on Thursday, March 19th at 11.45 am. No flowers, donations to Cancer Research. All enquiries to Abbey Funeral Services. Tel:(05827) 4854.

BRAMALL - On March 13th 1987, Grace Margaret, in her 98th year, peacefully at Fordingbridge Infirmary, Hampshire. Much loved wife of the late Mr. Edward Bramall, a Far Eastern Merchant of Singapore, and beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Funeral and burial will take place on Thursday March 19th at Breamore Church at 2pm. Flowers if desired to Fordingbridge Infirmary.

BROOK - On March 11th, suddenly, John Stafford, aged 63, of Woking, Surrey, late of The Bank of England, well loved brother and uncle. Service at Woking Crematorium at 2.00 pm on Monday March 23rd. Cut flowers to: C H Lovegrove, 32 Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey or donations to St.Peter's Hospital, Chertsey.

CASSON - On March 16th 1987, at the R D & E Hospital, Wonford, Exeter, Leslie David aged 63. Much loved by his family and all who knew him. Funeral service at Topsham St Margaret's Church, Monday March 23rd 12.00 noon, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to The British Red Cross for International Work, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ.

COX - On March 14th peacefully at home, Bennett Percy late of Nutlin Fruit Farm. Funeral service on Friday March 20th at 2.30 pm in St. James The Less Church, Nutley. All enquiries and flowers to Cooper & Son, Uckfield, Sussex. 0825 3763

CREE - On March 15th, at Kent and Sussex Hospital, peacefully in her sleep, Monica, widow of Tom, mother of Peter and David, grandmother of Christopher, Nicola and Davinia and great-grandmother of Nicholas. Funeral service at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Tenterden Broom on Tuesday March 24th at 2.45pm, followed by burial at Crowborough Cemetery. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to R.N.L.I. Crowborough branch. Enquires to Paul Eysenth, Funeral Services, Crowborough. Tel: 08926 5000.

FAWDRY - On 14th March, at her home, Lois (née Mearns Fraser), wife of the late Lieutenant Colonel J W Fawdry MC, and mother of the late Dallas. Funeral Service 11 am Tuesday March 24 at Portchester Crematorium, Hants. No flowers by request.

FRANKLIN - On March 15th, 1987 peacefully at the Bernard Sunley Home, Woking. Rosie aged 92. Cremation at Woking crematorium on March 23rd at 10.50am.

GILCHRIST - On March 13th 1987, peacefully at home, Sir Finlay Gilchrist O.B.E., of Ardingly, Sussex. Dearly loved husband of the late Joan, father of Graeme, Caroline and Colin, and grandfather of Simon, Johnathan and Kate, Virginia and Mark and Thomas. Funeral service private. Family flowers only.

GILL - On March 11th, instantly in a road accident, Simon Rupert, dearly loved son of Joanna Gill and David Gill, brother to Henry, Oliver and Hugo. Funeral service for family and friends at Chelsea Old Church, Cheyne Walk, London SW3, 2.30 pm Wednesday 18th March. Flowers to Kenyons. Tel:01 834 4524.

GLENNIE - On March 14th, peacefully at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, after a long illness, Barbara, beloved wife of Robert, mother of Nigel and Angus, and grandmother of Alastair, Aisling and Eilean. Funeral at St Anne's Parish Church, East Wittering, Sussex, at 11.00 am on Friday 20th March. At her special request, no flowers, but donations, if desired, to Friends of King Edward VII Hospital.

GRINKE - On March 16th, peacefully at Ipswich Hospital, Frederick Otto, C.B.E., F.R.A.M., beloved husband of Dorothy, father of Paul, and grandfather of Sebastian and Benedict. Funeral service private. Donations, if desired, to Musician's Benevolent Fund, St. Cecilia House, 16, Ogle Street, London W1.

HAZLERIGG - On March 16th 1987 peacefully at Lordship farm, Lt.Col Arthur William M.A., R.A. (retd), father of Robert and grandfather of Catrina. Funeral at Cambridge crematorium on Friday March 20th at 4.30pm. All enquiries to Cecil Newling, Funeral Directors, Royston. Tel 0763 45048.

HOWARD-JONES - On March 15th 1987, peacefully, after a long illness borne with great courage, Major General Leonard Hamilton Howard-Jones C.B., C.B.E., B.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E., A.M.I.E.E., late R.E.M.E., aged 81 years, beloved husband of Violet, father of Nigel and Nicola and step father of Jeremy and Jill. Funeral service private. No flowers. Donations to Arthritis and Rheumatism Research Council, 8 Charing Cross Rd, London WC2H OHN.

INGRAM - On March 15th, mercifully in her sleep, Eileen, much loved mother of William and Andrew. Funeral at Swynnerton Church, Oxon at 3.30 pm Thursday March 26th. Donations if desired to The Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

JOHNSON - On 13th March 1987, peacefully after a short illness, Freda Mildred of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, aged 76, beloved daughter of Charles and Erselie Johnson of Chorleywood. Lifelong worker for the local Conservative Association. Funeral at Christ Church Chorleywood on Friday 20th March at 11.15 am followed by private cremation. Flowers to James Peddle Limited, 65 High Street, Rickmansworth.

JURGENS-WOOD - On March 17th, peacefully at Montreux, Switzerland, Betty, beloved mother of Henry and the late Theodore.

KOROTAJ - On March 7th, Hedviga (née Zorko), much loved mother of Hilda, Erika, Kristina and the late Rodolf. Deeply loved grandmother and great grandmother.

LARSSON - On March 12th 1987, Florence, peacefully at home, aged 98 years, much loved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Funeral service Hither Green Cemetery, Thursday March 19th, at 11.30 am.

LUTYENS - On March 8th 1987, in York, David Bulwer son of the late Robert Lutyens. Funeral 2.50pm Thursday 19th March at York Crematorium. Flowers and donations if desired to Eskdale Ward, Clifton Hospital, York.

MAWBY - On March 14th 1987, unexpectedly but peacefully at home in Lugwardine, Maurice Harry, beloved husband of Ann and a dearly loved father and grandpa. Funeral service at Hereford Crematorium on Wednesday 18th March at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to St Michael's Hospice, Bartestree, Hereford.

MITCHELL - On Sunday March 15th 1987, peacefully in The Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, Shirley, widow of Rankine Mitchell, beloved aunt of Lesley Alberici and Catherine Fyvie-Gauld and great aunt of Carlo, Mark, Dominic, Richard and Vivienne. Service at St.Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Thursday March 19th at 11.00 am. Funeral thereafter private. No Flowers please, donations if desired to King George VI Sailor Fund.

MOORE - On 13th March 1987, Gerald Moore CBE, peacefully at home, aged 87 years. Beloved husband of Enid. Funeral private. No flowers. Donations if desired to The Musicians' Benevolent Fund, 16 Ogle Street, London W1.

O'LEARY - On March 14th, suddenly in Farnborough Hospital, Frank of Orpington, aged 67, dearly beloved husband of Mary and a loving father. Funeral service on Monday March 23rd at St. Michael and All Angels Roman Catholic Church, Lockesbottom, Kent at 10.00 am. Flowers and enquiries to Francis Chappell & Sons, 332 Crofton Road, Farnborough, Kent. Tel: (0689) 53277

PAUL - On March 16th 1987, at Bupa Hospital, Havant, Elizabeth Lillian, aged 76, widow of Andrew, dearly beloved mother of Derry, Colin and Kerstin. Requiem Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral Hampshire. On Thursday March 19th at 2.15pm. Followed by cremation at Portchester, at 3.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Sudan Church Association, C/O J. Hunter 9 Emsmoore Ave, Guildford, Surrey.

PERROTT - On Sunday March 15th 1987, peacefully at home, Dorothy Vivian Perrott, widow of Charles Harold Perrott of Cairo, Egypt and much loved friend. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium on Monday March 23rd 1987 at 12 Noon. No flowers. Donations, if desired, to People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, Dorking, Surrey. RH4 2LS.

PERRY-KEENE - On 16th March 1987, Air Vice Marshal Allan Lancelot Addison, C.B., O.B.E., R.A.F (retd), aged 88 years. Loving husband of Rene (deceased). A dear father, grand father and great grand father. Funeral at St. Peter's Church, St. Mary Bourne, Hants on 24th March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only; donations, if desired, to the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund.

PHIBBS - On Sunday 15th March in London, Richard Owen Neil. Funeral private. Donations to Cancer Research.

PLATT - On March 16th 1987, suddenly in Jersey, Veronica Norma Hope, aged 82 years, widow of James Westlake Platt and dearly loved mother of Tony, Brian, Colin and Christopher, will be sadly missed by all of her family. Funeral service at St Martin Parish Church, Jersey on Friday 20th March at 4.00pm. Family flowers only please, to G E Croad Ltd, Funeral Directors, 89 Don Road, St Helier by 2.00pm, but if desired donations in lieu maybe sent to The Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, C/O Mr S Hicks, Les Augres Manor, Trinity.

POTTS - On 13th March, suddenly at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, Tom, dearly loved husband of Margaret (Peggy) Potts, and a dear dad and grandad, aged 61 years, of Chapel Cottage, Longmarton, Appleby, Cumbria.

SANDFORD - On March 15th, suddenly, at home, Sheila Ann, aged 56 years, of The Isle, Bicton, Shrewsbury, dearly loved wife of Humphrey, and mother of Edward, Duncan, John and Paul. Funeral Service at Bicton Parish Church on Friday March 20th at 2.30 pm. Enquiries please to the Funeral Directors, W. R. R. Pugh & Son. Tel: Shrewsbury 0743 4646

TODD - On March 13th 1987, suddenly and very dignity in hospital, John Todd of Bingley, West Yorkshire. Consultant Psychiatrist (retired), dearly loved husband of Carol and much loved father of Sonya, James and Suzannah, father in law of Andrew, Anne and Mike and grandfather of Amanda, Louise and Jonathan. Very sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral service will take place at Chadwell St. Mary's Parish Church, Grays, Essex, on Friday March 20th, at 1.30 pm, prior to interment into Chadwell St. Mary's Cemetery, Brentwood Rd Chadwell. Relatives and friends please meet at Messrs W. Howard and Son Funeral Directors 32 High Rd, Orsett, at 1.15pm, prior to service in church. Please accept this intimation. Flowers, if desired, maybe sent to H. Bates Funeral Directors, The Fountains, Fountain St, Queensbury, Bradford West Yorkshire on Thursday March 19th, or if desired donations in lieu to National K9 Defence League, 1/2 Pratt Mews, Camden, London NW1 0AD. A memorial service will be held at High Royds Hospital, Menston, West Yorkshire on Monday 23rd of March, 1987 at 2.30pm. Any enquiries, please telephone H. Bates, Bradford 88 0244.

TUNSTALL-BENNENS - On March 15th, 1987 peacefully after a long illness, Margaret, (née Stevenson), in her 80th year. Cremation private.

WATTS - On March 6th, at St.Thomas' Hospital, to Melanie and Richard, a daughter, Francesca Elizabeth Jane. Gratia dei gratia.

WEBB - On March 12th 1987, unexpectedly, John Norman, dear husband of Margot, father of Rosalind, Annabel and Victoria, and Poppie of Georgina, Joseph, Elizabeth, William, Alexandra and Imogen. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium on 20th March 1987. Only family flowers please. Donations if desired to Entertainment Artists Retirement Home, Brinsworth House 72 Staines Road, Twickenham, Middlesex.

WEBB - On March 17th 1987, peacefully, Wilfred Hedley Webb of Wanborough, Wilts, aged 90 years, husband of the late Phyllis. Funeral Tuesday 24th March, service at Kingsdown Crematorium, Swindon at 12 noon. Enquiries 0793 22797.

WIGHTMAN - On March 13th 1987, peacefully, at St Catherines Hospice, Crawley, Gillian Primrose aged 46 years, of Wimland Farm, Faygate, much loved wife of David, mother of Rupert and James. Service takes place on Friday 20th March at St Mary's Magdalene Church, Rusper, 10.00am. All enquires to Francis Chappell, Crawley 21407.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WARD - A service of Thanksgiving for the life of Frederick William Ward O.B.E., L.L.M. Former Town Clerk and Chief Executive of Great Grimsby and High Steward of that Borough will be held at The Parish Church of Saint James, Great Grimsby on Friday March 27th at 12.00 noon.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

TAYLOR - ALFRED E. Artist and Designer, 18.3.87 - 13.12.69. In loving memory of my father. "He left us a happy memory".

ANDERSON - Marjorie died January 21st 1987, beloved mother of Allie and Marnie, adored grandmother of Zazie, Lucie, Chantal, Fleur and Gian Paulo. Please pray for her.

GILLIES - In loving memory of Lt. General Sir John Ghulab (Ghubb Pasha) who died on 17th March 1986. Dearly loved husband of Rosemary and beloved father of Faris, Naomi, Mary and John.

MORE O'FERRALL - Darling George, five years today. So much loved by us all. Elizabeth.

WOOD - On March 17th 1984, Leslie, of the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council. Much Loved.

RALLYN - In loving memory of Cecil, Captain, Royal Artillery, 658 Squadron Air OP., DFC with Bar, who died of wounds on 18th March 1945.

Science report

Rare flowers survive tempest and vandals

By Gareth Huw Davies

One of Britian's rarest flowers, the Downy Woundwort, has been discovered at a sight in Oxfordshire where it is believed to have germinated from seeds which had lain dormant for many years and which were disturbed by hedgecuttings.

Downy Woundwort, *Stachys germanica*, had previously been known at only four or five sites in chalky soil in meadows and lanes in the county. Then an amateur naturalist, Jo Dunn, found a few in 1984 growing in front of a hedge in a green lane. By mid-summer she had identified 56 flowers.

Stachys germanica is quite distinctive. It is covered in white hairs with a reddish purple flower and grows to about 24 inches.

The flowers are thought to have germinated in 1983 from dormant seeds when the ground was disturbed in 1982 during the first cut the hedge had received in 40 years. Over-wintering rosettes produced the flowering plants found in 1984.

The flowers were discovered over a stretch of 180 yards along the line of what appeared to be the original wider hedge. In all, 150 species have been found along the verge of the lane.

By late summer 1984, 20 new rosettes were found and each produced between one and five flowering stems in 1985, when more than 100 new plants were recorded. Half these were lost in the cold winter and damp spring of 1985/86.

However, by last autumn 130 young plants were recorded at the site. The researcher even disproved the authoritative botanist, Keble Martin, who in the *1965 Concise British Flora* asserted that *Stachys germanica* was stoloniferous, in that it has creeping stems putting down roots at intervals. Examination at the site showed that this was not the case.

A management programme is now underway to ensure the needs of the plant are met, by maintaining bare soil around the plants and protecting them from rabbit damage. However since the research was completed, the site has been vandalized and some plants have been taken.

Source: Bulletin of the British Ecological Society, Vol 18, No1, February 1987.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev P Randell, Rector, Shill Valley United Benefice, diocese of Oxford: to be Rector, St Genuys, Jacobstow with Warbstow and Treneglos, diocese of Truro.

The Rev S G C Smith, Assistant Curate Towcester, and Chaplain of St John's Community School, Tiffield, diocese of Peterborough: to be Priest-in-Charge, St Augustine, King's Heath, Northampton, diocese of Peterborough.

The Rev B Spaight, Assistant Curate, St Columb Minor, diocese of Truro: to be Assistant Curate, St John's, Worksop, diocese of Southwell.

The Rev N A Taylor, Vicar, St Edmund, Hayes, diocese of London: to be Vicar, United Benefice, Pilton with Ashford, Devon, diocese of Exeter.

The Rev T Thornton, Chaplain, University of Cardiff: to be Chaplain to the Bishop of Wakefield, diocese of Wakefield.

The Rev R F Tobin, Assistant Curate, Halstead, Saint Andrew with Holy Trinity and Greenstead Green, diocese of Chelmsford: to be Vicar, St Simon, South Shields, diocese of Durham.

The Rev J D Triner, Vicar, Dingestow and Llangovan with Penyclawdd and Tresaer, diocese of Mehmouth, Church in Wales: to be Vicar, Kirton-in-Holland, diocese of Lincoln.

The Rev S J Twycross, Head of Religious Education, Mount Grace High School, Hinckley, Leicestershire, with permission to officiate in the diocese of Leicester: became Priest-in-Charge, St John the Baptist, Stokesay, St Michael and All Angels, Sibdon Carwood, and St Thomas, Halford, Shrewsbury, diocese of Hereford, on 9 February.

The Rev L Underwood, Non-Stipendiary Assistant Curate, Dulce and Herodsfoot, diocese of Truro: to be Non-Stipendiary Priest-in-Charge, Dulce and Herodsfoot, same diocese.

The Rev R C Wardale, Priest-in-Charge, Hedworth, diocese of Durham: to be Vicar, Hedworth, same diocese.

Resignations and retirements

The Rev E J Bewes, Vicar, Hesket-in-the-Forest, Armathwaite, diocese of Carlisle: retired on 31 January.

The Rev J S Hodge, Team Vicar, Langley Marish Team Ministry, diocese of Oxford: has resigned for health reasons.

The Rev R H Waggett, Vicar, All Saints, Claremury, diocese of Liverpool: to retire on 31 May

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RICHMOND TUTORIAL COLLEGE The Princess Dr Ayesha of Sri Lanka was elected Chancellor of the college on Saturday 14th March

PLEASE HELP the National Benevolent Fund For The Aged to provide "TENS" machines for the relief of pain in conditions like arthritis. £60 buys a machine. Donations please to The Viscount Tonypandy, Chairman, NBFA, 65, London Wall, London EC2M 5TU.

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MARRIAGE & ADVICE Bureau Katharine Allen (ex Foreign Office) personal interviews.7 Salley Pl, W1. 01 499 2856.

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BOOKING KEY
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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **THE AMEN CORNER:** Transfer from the Tricycle of James Baldwin's powerful drama of a Harlem preacher facing revolt in congregation and family.
Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (01-437 3686). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8-10.50pm, Sat 8.15-11.05pm, *matinée Wed 3-5.50pm,* Sat 4.30-7.20pm, £4.50-£14.50.

☆ **DECADENCE:** Revival of Steven Berkoff's ferocious study of the upper classes. With Linda Marlowe. Limited season, proving very popular.
Wyndham's Theatre, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (01-836 3028). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 8.30-10.10pm, matinée Sat 5-6.40pm, £4.50-£10.50, until April 25.

★ **THE EMPEROR:** The last days of Haile Selassie, adapted for the stage by Michael Hastings and Jonathan Miller.
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-730 2554). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £5, *until* April 11.

☆ **THE HENRYS:** Michael Bogdanov's impressive productions of Shakespeare's Henry plays, with Michael Pennington as Prince Hal and Henry V, and John Woodvine as Falstaff.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7616, cc 01-261 1821). Tube: Waterloo. *Henry IV part 1* Sat 10.30am-1.30pm, *Henry IV part 2* today 2.30-5.30pm and 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 3-6pm. *Henry V* Thurs and Sat 7.30-10.30pm, Sat 7.45-10.45pm, £3-£10.50 (special ticket for all three plays £24), until May 2.

☆ **KATHIE AND THE HIPPOPOTAMUS:** The uses of fantasy in a travel-writer's diary. Award-winner from Edinburgh by the Peruvian Mario Vargas Llosa.
Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, London N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury and Islington. Mon-Sat 8-10pm, £6, until March 28.

☆ **MARCH OF THE FALSETTOS:** Previews of the zippy, witty musical by William Finn concerning the home life of New York bisexuals.
Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Previews Mon-Thurs 8-9.15pm, Fri and Sat 7.30-8.45pm and 9.30-10.45pm, £3-£10.50.

☆ **NO WORRIES:** Spell-binding musical play for young people about Matilda, daughter of an Australian sheep-farmer, forced to move to the city. Last week.
Young Vic Theatre, 66 The Cut, London SE1 (01-928 6363). Tube: Waterloo. Wed 10.30am-12.30pm, Thurs-Sat 2-4pm and 7-9pm, £2.50 *children,* £5.95 *adults, until* March 21.

☆ **NUNSENSE:** Previews of award-winning Off-Broadway musical set in a convent too poor to bury all 45 of its nuns poisoned by vichyssoise. Honor Blackman sets about raising the cash.
Fortune Theatre, Russell Street, London WC2 (01-836 2238). Tube: Covent Garden. Previews Mon-Fri 8.10-10.20pm, Sat 8.30-10.50pm, matinées Thurs and Sat 3-5.20pm. £5-£12.

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ **The Business of Murder:** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036) . . . ★ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079) . . . ★ **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951) . . . ☆ **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre Royal (01-836 8108/9/0 or 01-240 9066/7) . . . ☆ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-836 7611/7358 and 01-240 7913/4) . . . ★ **Les Misérables:** *Palace Theatre (01-434 0909)* . . . ☆ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443, cc 01-379 6433) . . . ☆ **No Sex, Please, We're British:** Duchess Theatre (01-836 8243) . . . ★ **Phantom of the Opera:** Sold out until October. Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244, cc 01-379 6131, 01-240 7200) . . . ☆ **Run for your Wife:** Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216, cc 01-379 6565) . . . ☆ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria Theatre (01-828 8665, cc 01-630 6262) . . . ☆ **Stepping Out:** Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122, cc 01-836 9837) . . . ☆ **Time:** *Dominion Theatre (01-580 9845, cc* 01-836 2428).

OUT OF TOWN

BOLTON: ☆ **Black Star:** New play by David Pownall about Ira Aldridge, the first great black actor, meeting prejudice and censorship on his Polish tour.
Octagon Theatre, Howell Croft South (0204 20661). Mon-Sat 7.30-9.45pm, £2.20-£4.50, until April 4.

BRADFORD: ★ **Kiss Me Kate:** Paul Jones as Petruchio and Nichola McAuliffe as Kate in the RSC's first American musical. Tickets scarce.
Alhambra Theatre, Morley Street (0274 752000), Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm, matinée Wed 2-4.45pm and Sat 2.30-5.15pm, £4-£12.50, until March 28.

BRISTOL: ☆ **The Doctor's Dilemma:** Shaw's fun at the expense of the medics is still full of laughs even if the plot feels more like an Edwardian soap.
Old Vic Theatre Royal, King Street (0272 24388), Mon-Wed 7.15-10.40pm, Thurs-Sat 7.45-11.05pm, £1.70-£7.50, until March 28.

BRISTOL: ★ **The Road:** Ian Dury in Jim Cartwright's scorching account of life and sex in dead-end Britain.
New Vic Theatre Royal, King Street (0272 24388), Mon-Wed 7.15-9.35pm, Thurs-Sat 7.45-10.05pm, £4, until March 21.

CAMBRIDGE: ☆ *Peer Gynt:* Cambridge Theatre Company returns to base with Michael Maloney playing Ibsen's feckless hero.
Arts Theatre, Peas Hill (0223 352000). Mon-Sat 8-10pm, matinée Sat 4.30-6.30pm, £6-£6.50, until March 28.

LANCASTER: ☆ **Salonika:** Award-winning play by Louise Page: age, youth and a ghost from the past meet on the once bloody battle ground.
Dukes Theatre, Moor Lane (0524 65645), Tues-Sat 7.30-9.50pm, £2.50-£4.75, until March 28.

LEEDS: ☆ **Pravda:** Philip Voss plays the colonial newspaper *tycoon in a famous tale of old Fleet* Street.
Playhouse Theatre, Calverley Street (0532 442111), Mon and Tues 8-10.40pm, Wed-Sat 7.30-10.10pm, £4-£5.50, until April 4.

LEICESTER: ☆ **Bophal:** The electrifying production by the Earth Players of Johannesburg: passion, humour and humanity.
Haymarket Theatre Studio, Belgrave (0533 539797), Mon-Thurs 7.45-9.05pm, Fri and Sat 8.15-9.35pm, £3, until March 28.

SHEFFIELD: ☆ **It's a Bit Lively Outside:** Joyce Holliday weaves together songs and true stories to celebrate daily life in Sheffield during the Blitz.
Crucible Theatre, 55 Norfolk Street (0742 769922), Mon-Sat 7.30-10pm, £3.50-£5.50, until March 28.

TOP 10 UK SINGLES

1	(1)	**Everything I Own,** Boy George	Virgin
2	(7)	**Respectable,** Mel & Kim	Supreme
3	(3)	**I Get The Sweetest Feeling,** Jackie Wilson	SMP
4	(4)	**The Great Pretender,** Freddie Mercury	Parlophone
5	(5)	***Live It Up,*** Mental As Anything	Epic
6	(2)	**Stand By Me,** Ben E King	Atlantic
7	(16)	**Weak In The Presence of Beauty,** Alison Moyet	CBS
8	(11)	**Moonlighting,** Al Jarreau	WEA
9	(6)	**When A Man Loves A Woman,** Percy Sledge	Atlantic
10	(8)	**Crush On You,** The Jets	MCA

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS

1	(–)	**The Joshua Tree,** U2	Island
2	(–)	**Men And Women,** Simply Red	Elektra
3	(1)	**The Very Best of Hot Chocolate,** *Hot Chocolate*	EMI
4	(2)	**The Phantom of the Opera,** Original Cast	Polydor
5	(23)	**Move Closer,** Various Artists	CBS
6	(4)	**Graceland,** Paul Simon	WB
7	(3)	**The World Won't Listen,** The Smiths	Rough Trade
8	(5)	**Picture Book,** Simply Red	Elektra
9	(6)	**Silk and Steel,** Five Star	Tent/RCA
10	(7)	**August,** Eric Clapton	Duck/WB

Compiled by Gallup for Music Week/BBC/BPI

FILMS

■ **Also on national release**
☎ **Advance booking possible**

■ **CASTAWAY (15):** Lucy Irvine's tropical island adventure, filmed by Nicolas Roeg with pretty and provocative pictures, but no narrative drive. With Oliver Reed and newcomer Amanda Donohoe (116 min).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636, cc 01-373 6990). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.10.
☎ **Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue** (01-836 8861). Progs 2.30, 5.35, 8.20.

■ **THE COLOR OF MONEY (15):** Paul Newman returns to the pool table in a belated sequel to *The Hustler.* Martin Scorsese works hard whipping up excitement as Fast Eddie Nelson tries to get back into the game, spurred by jealousy of a young protégé played by Tom Cruise (119 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.25, 5.40, 8.35.
☎ **Leicester Square Theatre** (01-930 5252, cc 01-930 7615). Progs 12.25, 3.10, 6.00, 8.55.
☎ **Odeon Kensington** (01-602 6644, cc 01-602 5193). Progs 2.30, 5.00, *8.10.*
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 2.40, 5.10, 8.10.

DEADLY FRIEND (18): Exuberant, tongue-in-cheek horror romp from the director of *A Nightmare on Elm Street.* With Kirsty Swanson as the battered daughter given a robot's brain by a teenaged Dr Frankenstein (90 min).
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Progs *2.30, 5.30, 8.15.*
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 2.30, 4.35, 6.40, 8.45.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). *Progs 2.40, 4.35, 6.35, 8.35.*
☎ **Warner West End** (01-439 0791, cc 01-439 1534). Progs 2.25, 4.30, 6.35, 8.40.

DUET FOR ONE (15): Julie Andrews tackles both the violin and emotional traumas in Tom Kempinski's adaptation of his famous play about a musician struck down by multiple sclerosis (107 min).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636, cc 01-373 6990). Progs 2.00, 6.00, 8.45.
☎ **Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue** (01-836 8861). *Progs 2.30,* 5.35, 8.20.

THE FANTASIST (18): Director *Robin Hardy returns with another* tall story, about a woman-killer at large in Dublin. With Moira Harris as the heroine in peril, Christopher *Cazenove as a one-legged police* inspector and heaps of local colour (94 min).
☎ **Warner West End** (01-439 0791, cc 01-439 1534). Progs 2.25, 4.30, 6.35, 8.40.

GOTHIC (18): Ken Russell's film starts with the stormy gathering at Byron's Villa Diodati which inspired Mary Godwin's Frankenstein. With Gabriel Byrne, Natasha Richardson and Julian Sands though scenes are regularly stolen by lightning, leeches, phallic armour and female automatons (87 min).
☎ **Lumière** (01-836 0691, cc 01-379 3014). Progs 1.15, 3.10, 5.05, 7.05, 9.10.

THE GREEN RAY (PG): Connoisseurs of Eric Rohmer's work will recognize both actress Marie Riviere and the predicament of her character as she labours mightily over affairs of the heart. Winner of last year's Venice Film Festival prize (98 min).
☎ **Chelsea Cinema** (01-351 3742). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.45.
☎ **Renoir** (01-837 8402). Progs 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.45.

SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT (18): Cheeky, rough and ready American independent film about the *sexual* adventures of a black girl in Brooklyn. Written and directed by Spike Lee (84 min).
☎ **Gate Cinema** (01-727 4043). Progs 3.00, 4.30, 6.05, 7.40, 9.25.
Metro (01-437 0757). Progs 3.00, 5.00, 7.10, 9.20.
☎ **Screen on the Green** (01-226 3520). Progs 3.40, 5.25, 7.20, 9.15.

STAND BY ME (15): The adventures of four small-town adolescent boys in the summer of 1959. Based on Stephen King's short novel, *The Body,* the film has a soundtrack decorated with period pop tunes. Directed by Rob Reiner (88 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.10, 4.40, 6.50, 9.00.
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.10, 3.05, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). *Progs* 2.35, 4.35, 6.35, 8.35.



Tonight at the Festival Hall Sir John Pritchard conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra in their last concert prior to a Russian tour. Sibelius's grim Symphony No 4 is the centrepiece, and the BBC Symphony Chorus and soloists are added for Dvorák's *Te Deum.* Also included is Szymanowski's colourfully astringent *Harnasie* ballet suite, although this is *not the UK première as the BBC has* claimed. Then on Saturday the 104 members of the orchestra with BBC technicians and 3,000 kilos of instruments and equipment leave for a visit to Moscow and Leningrad, where they last played 20 years ago. There will be three concerts at the Moscow Conservatoire and three in the Leningrad Philharmonic Hall, the first and last broadcast live on Radio 3 and two others recorded for future relay. The orchestra is presenting two Anglo-Russian programmes, the first being conducted by Sir John Pritchard. This will consist of Scriabin's Symphony No 3, Elgar's cello concerto with the Russian cellist Natalia Gutman, and Oliver Knussen's Symphony No 3. Conducted by Yuri Temirkanov, the other programme has Britten's Young Persons Guide to the Orchestra, Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 3 with Barry Douglas, last year's Moscow Tchaikovsky piano competition winner, and Holst's *The Planets.* Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). 7.30-9.45pm, £2-£11. *Max Harrison*

■ **TRICK OR TREAT (18):** A dead rock star of limited talent comes back to life to avenge his critics — an endearing premise raucously developed. With Marc Price and Tony Fields; directed by the actor Charles Martin Smith (98 min).
Cannon Prince Charles (01-437 8181). Progs 1.50, 4.40, 7.35.

WIVES TEN YEARS AFTER (15): Three wives assess their lives and husbands during a Christmas binge in Oslo. Sequel to the 1975 Norwegian comedy hit *Wives,* with the same cast and director — Anja Breien (88 min).
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 2.35, 4.35, 6.35, 8.35.

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

☆ **SOLO BACH:** David Johnstone plays Bach's Suite No 3 in D major for unaccompanied cello.
St Martin-within-Ludgate, Ludgate Hill, London EC4 (01-248 6054), 1.15-1.45pm, free.

EVENING

☆ **BACH/BUXTEHUDE:** Nicholas Danby performs Bach Inventions, the F minor Prelude and fugue BWV and *Aria Variata,* and a Buxtehude *Preludium in C, Toccata in F* and three Canzonettas.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). *5.55-6.55pm,* £2.

☆ **SCHOLA/PARLEY:** The Schola Cantorum of Oxford and The Parley *of Instruments in a programme of* Italian Renaissance and Baroque music. Emma Kirkby (soprano) sings, Stephen Clarke conducts.
St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061), 7.30-10pm, £3-£5.

☆ **SHAKESPEARE EVENING:** Dvořák's Othello Overture, orchestral excerpts from Berlioz's *Romeo and Juliet* and Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* performed by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic under Sir Charles Mackerras.
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street, Liverpool (051 709 3789), 7.30-9.30pm, £2.60-£6.80.

☆ **VAUXHALL TO VENICE:** The Chandos Baroque Players offer Scarlatti's Recorder Concerto, Woodcock's Oboe Concerto, a J.C. Bach Quintet, a Purcell Trio Sonata and Vivaldi's Concerto for Recorder, Oboe and Two Violins.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30-9.30pm, £2-£5.

☆ **HELP GREENPEACE:** Vivaldi's Concerto for Sopranino Recorder, Concerto for Two Guitars, Giuliani's Guitar Concerto, etc, are played by John Williams and others in aid of Greenpeace.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891); 7.45-9.45pm, £4.50-£10.50.

★ **MOZART/HAYDN:** The London Mozart Players conducted by Jane Glover play *Haydn's Sinfonia* Concertante and Symphony No 71, Mozart's Symphony No 34, and Angela Malsbury and Andrew Mariner solo in Krommer's Concerto for Two Clarinets.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). *7.45-9.40pm,* £3.50-£9.

★ **MESSIAEN IN MARYLEBONE:** Conducted by Colin Metters, the *Royal Academy of Music* Repertory Orchestra performs Messiaen's *Les offrandes oubliées* and *Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum* and Roussel's *Bacchus et Ariane* Suite No 2.
Royal Academy of Music, Duke's Hall, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (01-935 5461), 7.45-9.35pm, free.

DANCE

★ **SWAN LAKE:** Fiona Chadwick and Jay Jolley dance the leads in *Anthony* Dowell's new production for the Royal Ballet.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066), 7.30-10.15pm, £1 (bad view)-£22.50.

☆ **AMERICAN SUITE:** Extemporary Dance Theatre in the first London performances of works by Viola Farber and David Gordon.
The Place, Dukes Road, London WC1 (01-387 0031), 8-10pm, £5.

★ **DAY OF DANCE:** Ballet Rambert invites the public to class, *rehearsals, an introductory* matinée, a lecture and a performance.
Theatr Clwyd, County Civic Centre, Mold (0352 55114), 9.45am-3.20pm, £3.75. Perf 6.45-10pm, £5-£7.

☆ **SWAN LAKE:** André Prokovsky's production for Northern Ballet Theatre brings out the drama.
Theatre Royal, Sawclose, Bath (0225 65065), 7.30-9.30pm, £6-£9.

OPERA

☆ **TOSCA:** Phyllis Cannan now takes the title role in Jonathan Miller's controversial production set in Nazi-occupied Rome. Rodney Macann is the new Scarpia and Albert Rosen conducts.
English National Opera, Colisseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 8-10.45pm, £2-£18.50.

☆ **RUDDIGORE:** New Sadler's *Wells Opera tour with* Ian Judge's witty, elegantly staged production of the G & S mock-melodrama, *strongly cast and* well *sung.*
Empire Theatre, High Street West, Sunderland (091 514 2517), 7.30-10.20pm, £5-£10.50.

★ **MARRIAGE OF FIGARO:** John Cox's affectionate production for Scottish Opera, now with a lively new cast.
King's Theatre, Leven Street, Edinburgh (031 229 1201), 7.15-10.30pm, £3-£15.

☆ *BARBER OF SEVILLE:* Gilles Havergal's harum-scarum production in an open-plan dolls house set. György Fischer *conducts.*
Empire Theatre, Lime Street, Liverpool (051 709 1555), 7.15-10.15pm, £5-£15.

JAZZ

☆ **MARK MURPHY:** Newly popular with the Wag Club crowd, Murphy has been putting words and his agile voice to bebop standards *since the early Sixties.*
Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476), 8.30pm, £4.50.

☆ **MARIAN MONTGOMERY:** Stylish jazz-inflected singer, accompanied by her pianist husband, Laurie Holloway. The trains — alias the Iain Ballamy Quartet, featuring Django Bates — share the bill.
Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (01-439 0747), 9.30pm, £8 (£2 members).

☆ **MASQUALERO:** The Norwegian *bassist Arild Andersen leads this* interesting quintet, which also includes his long-time partner, the outstanding drummer Jon *Christensen.*
Zettfirelli's, Compston Road, Ambleside (0966 33845), 8pm, £4.50.

ROCK

☆ *THE MISSION: It is little more* than a year since the wayward son of Mormon parents and former Sister of Mercy, Wayne Hussey, *formed The Mission, but with the* recent hits "Wasteland" and "Severina", the group has tapped firmly into the growing market for *old-fashioned rock star heroics.* First night of a British tour.
Sheffield City Hall, Barker's Pool (0742 228855), 7pm, £5.

☆ **WORLD PARTY:** The group led by ex-Waterboy Karl Wallinger has shown an imaginative melodic flair with its *Private Revolution* debut. Support is folk-singer/songwriter Michelle Shocked.
Astoria, 157 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (01-434 0403), 8pm, £5.

☆ **LIONEL RICHIE:** The singer who has achieved outstanding *international* recognition both with The Commodores and, since 1981, as a solo star, continues his *European tour.*
NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133). 7pm, £12.50-£15.50.

☆ **MAZE:** The return of Frankie *Beverly's* smooth soul sensation. Last month's Wembley Arena shows were, by all accounts, house parties of unrivalled inspiration.
Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061 273 3775), 7pm, £6.50-£7.50.

☆ **KODO:** With breathtaking power and precision this extraordinary *Japanese company* build walls of polyrhythmic sound using an arsenal of exotic, traditional percussion instruments.
Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8916), 7.30pm, £3.50-£11, until March 28.

GALLERIES

BODYLINE: This exhibition compares and contrasts the poses, gestures, facial expressions and ideal physiques of the human figure from the Renaissance to the present.
The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (01-839 3321). Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, *until* May 17.

RICHARD WENTWORTH: New sculptures by a young and influential artist whose works are based on household furniture and appliances.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (01-741 2251), Tues-Sun 12-8pm, free, *until* April 12.

PAINTERS AND THE DERBY CHINA WORKS 1785-1848: Watercolour designs for pottery made by some of the unsung masters of decorative art such as Williams Billingsley and Pegg.
Victoria and Albert Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (01-589 6371), Mon-Sat 10-5.50pm (closed Friday), Sun 2.30-5.50pm, free, until June 21.

ART IN RUINS: An installation by artist Glyn Banks and architect Hannah Vowles which explores the *fine line between ruins and art.*
Gimpel Fils, 30 Davies Street, London W1 (01-493 2488), Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, April 11.

DAVID CARR (1915-1968): Paintings by a 'new' artist, presented by the same brokers who presented Harold Shapinsky, the previously unknown American abstract expressionist who suddenly made headlines two years ago.
The Mayor Gallery, 22A Cork Street, London W1 (01-734 3558). Mon-Fri 10-5.30pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until May 2.

THE GOLDEN THREAD: This show examines the current fashion among young artists, including Rose Garrard and Edward Allington, for using subjects from classical mythology.
Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Queen Street, Exeter (0392 56724). Tues-Sat 10-5.30pm, free, until April 4.

ROGER DE GREY AND FLAVIA IRWIN: Recent landscape paintings done in the south of France by the President of the Royal Academy and his wife.
Gallery 10, 10 Grosvenor Street, London W1 (01-491 8103), Mon-Fri 10-5.30pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until March 31.



Abel Gance's Napoleon was the first of the recent wave of silent film excavations to be given the full orchestral accompaniment, and it still remains the most impressive; partly due to Colin Davis's imaginative redeployment of the Eroica themes, but more to Gance's magnificent sense of the epic. Split screens, mobile camera (at one point attached *to a pendulum*), wide screen,* cast of thousands, storms at sea, battling armies; Gance invented them all for cinema. Stanley Kubrick once wanted to film the life of Napoleon; he'd have a tough act to follow. See Bookings — First Chance.

TALKS

HATTON GARDEN: Talk by Malcolm Holmes of Swiss Cottage Library for the Islington Archaeology and History Society. The Camden Head, Camden Passage, London N1 (info 01-253 6644), 8pm, 50p.

BEES: Talk by Clive Cohen for the London Wildlife Trust.
Camden Neighbourhood Centre, Greenland Road, London NW1 (info 01-722 3519/01-278 9612), 7.30pm, free.

WALKS

AN HISTORIC PUB WALK — BELGRAVIA: meet Sloane Square tube, 7.30pm, £2.25.
ELEGANT MAYFAIR: meet Green Park tube, 2pm, £2.25.
THE FAMOUS SHERLOCK HOLMES DETECTIVE TRAIL: meet Baker Street tube, 7.30pm, £2.

OTHER EVENTS

EARLY SPRING SHOW: Second and last day of RHS show with *early* camelia and rhododendron, magnolia and ornamental plant competitions. Information stand, cafeteria.
Royal Horticultural Society Halls, Vincent Square, London SW1 (01-834 4333), 10am-5pm, £1.

LITERARY EVENING: Katherine *Worth, author and professor of* drama and theatre studies at the University of London, discusses Yeats, Beckett and Irish drama, with *tape recordings of radio* productions.
Waterman's Arts Centre, High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (01-568 1176), 7.30pm, adult £3, child £2.50.

CAMRA LONDON DRINKER BEER FESTIVAL: First day of a three-day exhibition and tasting of traditionally brewed beers, ales, and ciders. Live jazz, folk and brass music in the evenings.
Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, London WC1. Further information from Derek Ballard (01-888 5300). 11.30am-3pm, 5pm-10.30pm, £1.

MAGIC LANTERN SHOW: Chance to look at the old optical *instruments* and learn more about our grandparents' entertainment before the advent of television.
Liverpool Museum Foyer, William Brown Street, Liverpool, Merseyside (051 207 0001). 12.45pm, free.

TAPE-SLIDE PRESENTATIONS: *The life of St Thomas of Canterbury* (12.30pm), Medieval Bibles (2pm).
British Library, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (01-636 1544), free.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

MALVERN FESTIVAL: Personal booking for programme including Polish Chamber Orchestra, Fine Arts Brass Ensemble, Nigel Kennedy, Elizabeth Harwood; plus theatre premiere of William Douglas Home's *Portraits.* May 17-30.
Malvern Festival Theatre Box Office, Grange Road, Malvern (*06845 3377*).

NAPOLEON: Special 60th anniversary screening of Abel *Gance epic,* with live orchestral accompaniment and Carl Davis score. Carl Davis conducts Wren Orchestra of London. April 20. 3pm-10.30pm.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: Britten's *Les Illuminations, Mozart's Missa Brevis* K 194, and works by Clarke and Boccherini, are the programme for the London Festival Orchestra on the Summer Music in Cathedrals tour. June 12. Bookings: 34 The Strait, Lincoln (0522 23000, cc 0522 44977).

LAST CHANCE

MARIA CHEVSKA: Large and freely coloured pictures by young artist. Ends today.
Bernard Jacobson Gallery, 2a Cork Street, London W1 (01-439 8355).

TSUTSUMO: Exquisite examples in straw, wood, cloth and paper of traditional Japanese craft of wrapping and packaging. Until Saturday.
Exhibition Gallery, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes (0908 605538).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Richard Williams; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Other Events: Judy Froshaug; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 628 8795/638 8891. cc (Mon-Sat 10am-6pm) **ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY BARBICAN THEATRE** Book now for new season starting 26 March **MACBETH, ROMEO AND JULIET** and **RICHARD II. THE FIT** Book now for new season starting 25 March **COUNTRY DANCING** by Nigel Wilkes. **WORLDS APART** by José Triana and **SARCOPHAGUS** by Vladimir Cubaryev.

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THE ARTS

Cook's tour

TELEVISION

Last night, BBC2 made another meal of Egypt. The feast on Sunday – which was prepared by David Attenborough, the master chef of the television series (with a book as a side-dish), and included four million odd Ibis *au pot* – was more for vultures of culture than belly-fodder. Indeed, the cuts from Egypt to a Spanish bullfight and a Tunisian tuna catch were enough to put me momentarily off my supper.

Now, after the Egyptian jaunt of *The First Eden: The Mediterranean World and Man* we had *Mediterranean Cookery* and a woman in the land of pharaohs. At least, I presume she was there. For a start, the cookery writer Claudia Roden, who is our guide on this Mediterranean gastronomic tour, is Egyptian. However, the only time she appeared in person was in an internal shot introducing the series which could have been done anywhere.

Wherever she was, it was clear that, though intelligent and attractive, she was not completely at home in front of the camera. Television is a cruel humbler of experts, for if they are not expert at facing the lens, they appear not to be an expert at all. Assured performers, even if they got their information from a cereal packet just before shooting, appear to be the fount of all wisdom. Attenborough, of course, is so skilled on camera that he seems at home anywhere, and you assume he knows everything there is to know about the subject. On Sunday he translated hieroglyphs as though a fluent reader of them – which I doubt he is.

Ms Roden, perhaps wisely, effaced herself in gentle, gastronomic travelogue commentary which suggested that whatever Egyptian cooking was, it wasn't really Egyptian. She even left the cooking to others. Thus, another Egyptian woman suffered that television cooking ordeal of friends silently tasting the *grub*.

Andrew Hislop

In search of a stage

Tonight, Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author* opens at the National Theatre. Associate director Nicholas Wright – who adapted the play – spoke to Chris Peachment

Nick Rogers



Michael Wright: 'What I miss is the time to moon around'

Luigi Pirandello occupies a strange room in the house of theatre; a distant attic perhaps, well-known, prized by the occupants, often discussed, but not much visited. Like "Brechtian", the term "Pirandellian" has passed into the language. Everyone knows what it means, but, unlike Brecht, there are very few productions of his plays.

Even his best-known work, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, has only had some three London productions in the past quarter century – and two of those have been by visiting companies from abroad.

Tonight, however, the National Theatre will set things to right, when a production of *Six Characters* opens. Directed by Michael Rudman, the play is being presented in what is called "a new version" by associate director Nicholas Wright. So how new is "new"?

"We are calling it that," says Wright, "simply because I haven't translated it. I speak no Italian, so I commissioned an absolutely literal translation of the original, meticulously accurate with no approximations, no elisions, no turning of an Italian metaphor into an English one, and I worked from that."

> 'It had a power to shock, because of the immediacy'

There are still two major problems to be addressed with any production of this play; clearly Wright has attacked both with original solutions, either of which would qualify this production as "new".

The first concerns the setting. He remembers seeing one production which came to this country performed by a San Franciscan troupe, who had simply set the play which the Six Characters are rehearsing in contemporary San Francisco. Seeing it at one more remove – in London – was enough to double the size of the problem in Wright's mind.

"When the first production was done in Rome in 1921, the actors were discovered on a bare stage, rehearsing. *The Rules Of The Game*, Pirandello's recent *succes de scandale*. In this context it had an enormous power to shock, because of the immediacy. It was like a 'happening', people were assaulted by the fact that it was happening there and then.

"Nowadays, you have the problem of deciding just which bare stage you are showing. Is it the bare stage of the Olivier, which people are bound to think is the case, or is this bare stage supposed to represent that bare stage in Rome?

"Moreover, the rehearsal methods in the play are obviously of their period. Should one perhaps update those?"

He and Rudman finally elected to return to that original production, using a set on the Olivier stage to recapture the Roman stage. This seems entirely sensible, if only because of the mental baggage which audiences automatically bring to the play.

In addition, there are no attempts to break down the barriers between audience and actor by having actors come through the auditorium and up to the stage – another wise decision, given the number of times this trick has been misused since Pirandello's time.

Not all of the actors' dialogue was provided by Pirandello, since he preferred to let them busk their way through their own actorly business. But there is a strong tradition in the Italian theatre of that kind of improvisation, which springs from *commedia dell'arte*, but which is not found in our theatre. So the gaps have been filled out, and the desire is that the actors should be allowed to "sound sensible" about their craft.

The second major decision to be made concerned the play which the actors are rehearsing. *The Rules of The Game* is not the best-known play in the world, although there was a production at the National in the early 1970s by Anthony Page, starring Paul Schofield. Nor is it very relevant to *Six Characters*, apart from being a contemporary play.

Consequently, Wright has elected to have them rehearse *Hamlet*; a decision less way-

> 'There are strong parallels between it and *Hamlet*'

ward than it might appear. "First of all there are strong parallels between the two plays. *Six Characters* has a father who has recently died, a neurasthenic son, a stepfather figure, a grieving mother, and a lot of ambiguous guilt.

"Moreover, there are many little quotes, whether unconscious or not I don't know. At one point the son says: 'Words, words, words'. And the final line of the play is: 'Give me some lights'."

While he is responsible for new writing at the National Theatre, Wright also packs in a parallel career as a playwright himself. The most recent of his six plays, *The Desert Air*, was performed by the RSC in 1984/5. He is currently writing a play about Melanie Klein, which involves a fairly drastic regime of early rising to put in his stint at the typewriter, before taking up his daily work at the National, and his self-imposed rule of reading at least one new play a day.

"My eyesight hasn't packed up yet, thank God, but I need to go down the gym on my way to work. I don't mind the hard work of writing. What I miss is the time to moon around. Mooning around is vital to me."

Beard ing the Lion

Donald Cooper



Homage: Stefan Kalipha and wheelchair-bound Nabil Shaban

THEATRE

The Emperor
Royal Court Upstairs

At the time of its English publication three years ago, Ryszard Kapuscinski told an interviewer that his study of the decline and fall of Haile Selassie had originated in a disgust with traditional reporting. "There is," he said, "much more to say, but no way to say it."

In his resultant book he went on not only to break journalistic boundaries, but to produce a classic study of power that belongs in the timeless company of Suetonius and Machiavelli. It comes as quite a shock, for example, to encounter the name of Jonathan Dimbleby in the midst of a narrative where the Caesars, the Medicis, or Nixon's praetorian guard would be equally at home.

One can see the appeal this work must have had for Jonathan Miller, as his only production of a modern text apart from *The Freeway*, by Peter Nichols. *The Emperor* centres on Miller's interest in the minutiae of social history, and the accompanying theme of memory. It also inhabits his preferred classical zone, and sets the adapter (Miller in collaboration with Michael Hastings) an entirely different challenge to that of conventional narrative.

The book consists mainly of interviews with the survivors of the Selassie's court, whom Kapuscinski tracked down in the chaos of Addis Ababa in the wake of the 1974 military coup. There are statements from menials whose tasks included laying a cushion under the throne so that the diminutive ruler's feet would not be left swinging in mid-air, writing down his inaudible commands and taking the blame when they misfired, and wiping the shoes of visiting dignitaries that had been fouled by His Most Ineffable Highness's dog, Lulu.

Such piquant detail apart, the fascination of these statements (all claimed by the author as authentic quotes) is that they are rendered in luminous Augustan prose, with the satiric bite of Swift. As Miller rightly says, they cry out to be spoken aloud; and his decision to reproduce the book in another medium comes over as as a simple act of homage to a masterpiece.

Cut down to two hours playing time, the piece is entirely faithful to Kapuscinski's text and structure. A cast of six West Indian and Jordanian actors steps forward to deliver the survivors' experiences in direct address.

There is hardly any dialogue, and no continuity of character; everyone gets his chance to be the emperor. The setting (by Richard Hudson) offers Miller's latest variation on the theatre of memory: a blank, blue-grey assembly of oddly shaped doors and spy-holes, which is at once a place of collective recall, and an evocation of Kafka's castle as seen from inside.

I have two complaints. First, while the text includes a rich selection of the absurd iniquities that flourished during Selassie's 44-year reign, it omits the all-important central principle that kept him in power: the principle that subjects were entitled to any amount of corruption and internecine rivalry so long as they remained unswervingly loyal to the ruler.

More importantly, Miller has not found a theatrical pretext for the performance. These speakers, originally speaking in fear and trembling to a single visitor, now appear on stage to address a crowd. Why are they taking the risk? And are their ironies deliberate or inadvertent? The book can leave this ambiguous, but performance has to take a decision one way or the other.

In other respects, this is a spell-binding production, both in the evocation of power – as a positive presence that fills the space and then drains away into desolation – and in the fertility of pantomimic invention that underscores the text as the cast turns into a crowd of courtiers jostling to be noticed, or Stefan Kalipha enacts the physical transformation of a nobody into a court dignitary.

There is also the electrifying presence of Nabil Shaban, a tiny, disabled figure in a wheel-chair and an actor of prodigious imaginative energy. He is at once a figure out of the Arabian Nights, with equal dignity as an emperor and a beggar, and a wickedly mischievous modern commentator who winds up a sequence of ludicrous imperial development projects by turning into a tractor, hurtling into the front row.

Irving Wardle



POP

Lionel Richie
NEC

In Nelson George's detailed and compelling book *Where Did Our Love Go?* – a history of "the rise and fall of the Motown sound" – Lionel Richie merits but one passing mention as "ex-Commodore lead singer and Motown's most important solo act of the Eighties".

Not only has the era of Richie's pre-eminence occurred long after the Motown sound could be said to have "fallen", but, in spite of his overwhelming popular appeal, he has long been regarded with scepticism by the critical establishment.

His UK debut as a solo performer reflected such tendentiousness in that it was a show that depended on a constant barrage of gimmicks and effects to maintain its momentum. It started with a grand piano rising from the well of the stage, playing the opening bars of "Hello", like Sparky's fabled instrument, with no manual assistance. The finale saw various of the performers hoisted aloft, upside down, until their feet reached the lighting gantries, a neat visual accompaniment to "Dancing On the Ceiling".

In between, there were few parts of the stage that did not move in some way, and pianos and drum kits glided about like ships in the night, while lights flashed with glaring insistence.

The irritating showbiz presumption that the audience's attention was unlikely to last the course of a whole song, was manifest in sequences of near-medleys – "Truly", "You Are", "Sail On", "Say You Say Me" – but when numbers like "All Night Long" and "Se La" did get the full treatment, there was a definite chemistry at work.

Richie, who wore a variety of baggy designer suits, sang with power and grace and, for the most part – even allowing for "Endless Love" – soppy sentimentality was kept at bay by the sheer energy of the performance.

Richie may be denied the glowing mentions in the history books, but his legions of admirers are unlikely to forget this show in a hurry.

David Sinclair

Varying views of Brahms

LONDON DEBUTS

The repertoire of the **Raphael Ensemble**, of London, consists of string music written for an expanded chamber group. The Brahms Sextet, Op. 18 was a predictable and welcome inclusion, but it was Erich Wolfgang Korngold's work – in the same form, and written at the tender age of 17 – that caught my interest.

Veering between Mahlerian exuberance and a suffocating intensity, the Korngold piece proved the group to be expertly attractive with regard to ensemble and overall mellowness of tone.

True, the leader's style is a bit highly-strung and not wholly sympathetic, but the Raphael Ensemble has that instrumental polish and enthusiasm for subtly graded polyphonic playing that enable the detail of the score to form a broadly focused whole.

The pianist **Sergio de los Cobos** was born in Geneva, although his studies have taken him far and wide. Apart from a number of problems with memory, the impression he gives if of an honestly equipped artist whose individuality is somewhat limited, but who is worth hearing all the same.

In both the Ginastera Sonata and Liszt's first *Mephisto Waltz* he displayed a muscular control of technique, complemented by a sensible musicality. Temperament was never allowed to upset equilibrium.

Cobos tends to luxuriate – in a slightly narcissistic manner – in his own rounded tone and I regret having found three of Brahms's *Ballades*, Op.10 reduced to sounding merely comforting.

The Beethoven Trio from Vienna have been playing for six years or so, and in that they have developed a near-perfect, and yet relaxed, balance. The pianist, Christiana Karajeva, was completely unruffled by the technical complexities of Martinu's *5 Short Pieces* (1931) and the Méndelssohnian scherzo from Brahms's Trio in B, Op.8 had that magical delicacy of touch that makes one hold one's breath.

The lofty aspirations of the young Brahms often emerges as very disconnected, but here there was a cogency of purpose that belied the composer's relative immaturity.

The admirable Beethoven Trio cannot be faulted in matters of precision and in their healthily convincing grasp of the chamber idiom.

James Methuen-Campbell

Capricorn
Purcell Room

Any cursory examination of the work of emerging composers, whatever their region of origin, is bound to reveal a number of good ideas, a lot of solid craftsmanship, and very few pieces that hit you straight between the ears.

The only departure from that maxim in the first concert of Capricorn's Nordic Music series (neatly timed to warm us up for the production of Auslis Sallinen's *The King Goes Forth To France* at Covent Garden next month) was that *nothing* hit you straight between the ears – or, at least, if one piece did, it was for the wrong reasons.

Pelle Gudmunsen-Holmgreen's *Plateaux pour Deux* for cello, car horns and cowbells, earned itself a smirk or two, but I can only think that they were of wholly justified derision.

Perhaps the most attractive sounds were to be found in the

CONCERT

Swedish composer Mikael Edlund's trio *Sol*, of 1980, a short – though scarcely pithy – piece for clarinet, bassoon and piano, that made more from its motoric rhythms and basically diatonic language than one might have expected.

Brevity, on the other hand, was not a virtue of the Finnish composer Jouni Kaipainen's Clarinet Trio, Opus 21. Here a short, predominantly quiet, fast and airy first movement was compromised by the dullness of the subsequent two. Meanwhile, another Swedish piece, Sven-David Sandström's *Out of*, for violin (with G and D strings tuned a quarter-tone low) and bassoon, could not justify its own existence other than as a useful technical test.

Poul Ruders's *Vax in Rama* (1983), for clarinet, electric violin and piano, held one advantage by having been written to a specific programme – a passage from St Matthew. It had a clear structure too, the protagonists taking it in turn to combat with fearsome jaggedness before the despairing ending.

There was also the first performance of the clarinet trio *Lin*, by Ruders' compatriot Per Norgård. Its idea – of complexity slowly evolving into something more direct and simple – is a nice one, but on one acquaintance it does not seem that Norgård manages to realize it with the imagination one might expect from one of Denmark's most gifted composers.

Stephen Pettitt

The rules of the game

Thatcher's Women
Tricycle Theatre

The title fills you with gloom – politics served with feminism seems the likely menu – but apparently this is the description applied by professional tarts at King's Cross to wives who come down from the North to play, so to speak, the game for a week or two to supplement their husband's dole.

Kay Adshead's first full-length play follows the fortunes of three women, not from Grantham – which might have added a certain piquancy – but from Manchester. Lynda, pretty and practised, finds herself in a nightclub, suffers unspecified attentions from a sadistic Park Laner, but ends up in red velvet with thoughts of a small business.

Raucous, pig-ignorant Norah discovers she does not relish the work and spends most of her fortnight reading *Scouting for Boys* at the King's Cross buffet.

The most interesting character is Marje, shell-shocked by poverty, who finds a species of satisfaction in being able to do something in exchange for money, and identifies with the tenacious fox she sees surviving on the Common.

Episodic is the word for it: first a bit of champagne, then a dangling condom. Most of the scenes are instructive (for it must always be useful to know which hotels discourage companions) but the pair that pack the emotional punch are virtually wordless: Debra Gillett weeping in her defilement and Marjorie Yates transfixed with memory and grief.

There is also Miss Gillet's thrilled summary of the golden prospect ahead of her: "I'll pay tax!" Such clues suggest that Kay Adshead may have a stronger play in her than this one. Pip Broughton directs.

Jeremy Kingston

● James Baldwin's Hot Gospel play *The Amen Corner*, which I greatly admired at the same theatre eight weeks ago, has now transferred to the Lyric Theatre with its cast unchanged.

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FT-SE 100
2006.3 (+14.5)

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39866 (49571)

USM (Datastream)
159.68 (+1.14)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6010 (+0.0215)

W German mark
2.9370 (+0.0448)

Trade-weighted
72.1 (+0.7)

Yule Catto sells stake in Barrow

Yule Catto, the chemicals and engineering group which last week admitted defeat in its £28 milion bid for Barrow Hepburn, announced yesterday that it has sold its 1.59 million share holding in Barrow.

In a separate development, Mr Paul Channon, the Trade Secretary, has decided not to refer to the Monopolies Commission the merger of Barrow Hepburn and Yule Catto's rival bidder, BTP Group.

BTP declared its offer unconditional last week and Mr Channon's announcement removes the final obstacle to the merger.

US deficit hits record $36bn

The US current account deficit, a broad measure of trade in goods and services, hit a record $36.84 billion (£23 billion) during the final quarter of last year.

The current account deficit for all of 1986, including trade in financial services and goods, was a record $140.57 billion, up from $117.68 billion in 1985, the Commerce Department said.

Japan slows

Japan's economy turned in its worst performance for 12 years in 1986 and economists said yesterday they see little chance of a quick recovery. The government's Economic Planning Agency said that growth slowed to 2.5 per cent last year from 4.7 per cent in 1985. Consumer spending unexpectedly sagged and the 40 per cent rise of the yen against the dollar over the last two years has hit Japan's exporters hard.

Expamet rise

Pretax profits at Expamet International jumped 32 per cent to £5.8 million on turnover up 33 per cent to £70 million for the year to December 31. The dividend risesby 14 per cent to 6.75p net.

Tempus, page 19

Glaxo listing

Plans for a listing of Glaxo shares on the Tokyo stock market — where drug company shares are in demand — are running ahead of schedule and could be finalized before the end of June.

Marley offer

Marley's offer for ordinary shares in Nottingham Brick has been declared fully unconditional. The preference shares offer, which is not unconditional, has been extended until March 30.

Coloroll sale

Coloroll, the home furnishings group, has put its profitable packaging division up for sale because it no longer fits in with the rest of the group. SG Warburg, the merchant banker, has been asked to find a buyer.

Lowest figure for 17 years

PSBR plunges to £100m

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Figures for the February public sector borrowing requirement, released hours before the Budget, continued a remarkable sequence.

The cumulative PSBR for the first 11 months of the financial year was just £100 million, compared with £2.7 billion at the same stage a year ago and £7.8 billion in the corresponding period of 1984-85.

The figures, considerably better than the City had expected, produced swift gains of about half a point for the gilts market.

Treasury officials have also been taken aback by the continued buoyancy of tax revenues and the run of low borrowing figures, which began last autumn.

The PSBR for last month alone was negative by £314 million — the fifth successive month in which there has been a net repayment by the public sector.

In the five months since October, the PSBR has been negative by £5.6 billion. Overall, cumulative borrowing in the current financial year is running at its lowest level since 1969-70, when Mr Roy Jenkins was Chancellor of the Exchequer. Then, the PSBR ended the year in surplus.

One factor that reduced the PSBR last month was the British Airways share flotation, the first tranche of which brought in about £440 million after costs.

This month's PSBR will be reduced by the £750 million repayment of loans to the Government by British Gas. But lower petroleum revenue tax receipts and the £680 million restructuring of the Rover Group will add to borrowing.

Apart from the buoyancy of VAT and corporation tax revenues, borrowing has been reduced by net repayments from the local authorities and public corporations.

In the first 11 months of the year, the local authority borrowing requirement was negative by £0.7 billion. Sale and leaseback arrangements by local authorities, such as those undertaken by Liverpool City Council, have reduced local authority borrowing.

Weather puts freeze on output

Manufacturing output fell in January as the bad weather prevented people from going to work. But a sharp rise in energy output lifted overall industrial production.

There was a 2.3 per cent drop in manufacturing output in January, two-thirds of which was due to a drop in the production of metals, chemicals and mineral products.

Whitehall officials said these sectors were badly hit by the weather and that the January figures were regarded as an aberration. In the latest three months, manufacturing output rose by 0.5 per cent. Trend growth in manufacturing is officially estimated at about 3 per cent.

Energy output surged by 7.2 per cent in January as North Sea output recovered after pipeline repairs in December. The cold weather also lifted domestic gas and electricity supplies to record levels, while water supply may have been boosted by pipe bursts.

As a result of the strength of energy output, overall industrial production rose by 0.4 per cent in January. But in the November-January period, it was 0.7 per cent down on the previous three months. Trend growth in industrial production is estimated to be about 1.5 per cent.

Construction output, for which fourth quarter figures are available, rose by 2.2 per cent last year. In the fourth quarter alone, construction output rose by 0.8 per cent.



Ros Drinkwater

Shute: hotly contested takeover of Benford paying off

BM daily output value rises 70%

By John Bell, City Editor

BM Group, the construction equipment manufacturer, reports that its hotly contested £20 million takeover of Benford Concrete Machinery last year is paying off handsomely.

"We have increased the value of daily output by 70 per cent," Mr Roger Shute, BM chief executive, said yesterday.

"The group was weak in management and marketing but otherwise perfectly good."

Benford, whose exports relied in the past on declining markets in Africa and the Middle East, is now developing new sales potential in Europe and the United States. Its distribution side is going from strength to strength, said Mr Shute. Stripping out the Benford acquisition, profits growth in the rest of the BM group was running at 35 per cent in the six months to December 31 last year.

Total group profits were slightly more than doubled at £2.124 million on turnover up from £16.3 million to £29.4 million. Earnings per share rose from 3.64p to 5.56p. Shareholders are to receive an interim dividend of 0.9p compared with 0.66p last time.

Guinness told who received missing £5.2m

By Lawrence Lever

The trail of the missing Guinness millions was extended yesterday when details emerged of payments made by the Jersey nominee company which received £5.2 million from Guinness.

The whereabouts of the £5.2 million has been the subject of legal action taken by Guinness in the Jersey Royal Court. The nominee company, Marketing and Acquisition Consultants, claimed last week that the money was paid to it on the instructions of Mr Thomas Ward, a Guinness director, in return for services he provided during the takeover of Distillers.

It emerged in court that the money had been transferred to a number of parties and Guinness won a court order for further details.

These show that £4.7 million of the money ended up in a Swiss bank account in the name of a company called Interswiss Corporation.

Mr Ward, who has been asked to resign his directorship of Guinness, is shown as having received $165,000 (£104,000) personally.

Mr Ken Lazarus, a partner in Mr Ward's Washington law firm, received $100,000, while £50,000 was paid to a company called Public Presentations via a Swiss bank account.

In addition, $320,000 went to an account at the Connecticut National Bank.

Other payments were revealed in the Jersey court proceedings last week. These included payments of £25,000 and £1,400 made in January this year to companies connected with Marketing for services rendered.

Mr Michael Dee, the managing director of Marketing, refused to be drawn yesterday on the reasons for the various payments. "All my instructions were received from Mr Ward," he said. He also said that an affidavit, sworn by Mr Shaun Dowling, a Guinness director, to support the company's claim on the £5.2 million, had turned out to be inaccurate in a number of respects.

Mr Dee added that there is only about £3,000 remaining in the name of Marketing.

Meanwhile, Guinness will have to wait at least one year before receiving the return of any of the $100 million it invested in a partnership controlled by Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced US arbitrageur.

Under the terms of a settlement agreed with the American Securities and Exchange Commission, the Boesky partnership has been allowed to repay the partnership's debts but cannot distribute any funds to the limited partners, such as Guinness, for one year.

Moreover Guinness, as the largest investor, will face the biggest exposure to legal action. The SEC has said that the limited partners must pay pro rata any judgments awarded against the partnership.

Western Motor agrees £5.5m bid

By Ray Heath

An agreed bid was launched yesterday by Mr Richard Palmer and Mr Bruce McNeill for the Plymouth-based Western Motor Holdings.

The two men were involved in the unsuccessful bid for Frank G Gates, the Ford main dealer, by the New Zealand group, Giltrap Holdings.

With the backing of British and Australian funds and advised by Samuel Montagu, the bankers, Mr Palmer and Mr McNeill have acquired 53.6 per cent of Western's ordinary shares at 270p and 37.5 per cent of the "A" shares at 230p a share, and are bidding for the rest.

On news of the bid, which values Western at £5.5 million, the ordinary shares jumped 106p to 313p, before settling back at 295p.

Mr Palmer and Mr McNeill, who have wide experience of the motor industry, bought their stake from Estates & Agency Holdings, which had 29.9 per cent of the ordinary shares, and the Mumford family which held about 24 per cent.

The two plan to retain Western's stock market quotation, and enfranchise the "A" shares. Holders of the ordinary shares will be given 174 new shares for every 1,000 held as compensation for the dilution of their voting rights.

Samuel Montagu will own 29 per cent of the group after the enfranchisement, but this holding could be placed with other institutional investors.

Western recently emerged from a long period of losses, having hived off its motor retail interests to concentrate on its Autocar & Transporters subsidiary which operates vehicle transporters.

Mr Palmer and Mr McNeill intend to develop Autocar, but have also signalled their intention of following an active acquisition policy by announcing plans to raise £3 million through a convertible unsecured loan stock.

Orion pulls out of FRN market

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Orion Royal Bank has decided to pull out of the Floating Rate Note Eurobond market because of the difficulties in trading the instruments in current market conditions.

Several other dealering houses are believed to be reconsidering their presence in the market as the liquidity of FRN trading continues to drop.

An Orion spokesman said that although the bank might return to the market if conditions changed, its decision was more or less permananent.

Trading has become extremely volotile as investors have increasingly preferred ordinary fixed rate bonds. Recently, the market in perpetual FRNs, which have no maturity date, virtually came to an end as investor demand dried up and prices fell sharply.

There are fears that Japanese banks, which are large holders of FRNs, may start to sell their holdings to meet new higher capital requirements on their business. This was one of the factors which damaged the perpetual FRN market.

Some dealers insisted that continuing demand for high quality sovereign FRN issues would keep the market active but others were more pessimistic.

L&N talks continue as Demerger bid lapses

Talks between the directors of London and Northern and the Demerger Two team, whose £90 million bid lapsed on Monday, continued yesterday.

The L&N board, which until last weekend had scorned the Demerger proposals for splitting the company into four separate businesses, is now seeking its protagonists' assistance in keeping the group out of the clutches of Evered, the acquisitive industrial holding company.

Evered has accumulated a 20.5 per cent stake in L&N and is believed to be about to launch a full-scale takeover bid for the company.

The L&N directors evidently feel that a Demerger solution, under which they could perhaps negotiate to retain independent control of part of the company they have built, is preferable to control by Evered.

Demerger believes it retains the wide support of the institutional shareholders in L&N.

Hanson sells Finlays to auditor for £17m

By Teresa Poole

Hanson Trust yesterday announced the sale of the Finlays chain of 282 confectionery, tobacco and newsagency shops to Mr Arunbhai Patel for £16.9 million in cash.

Mr Patel, an accountant and chairman of the newly formed Finlays company, said: "It is our intention to build it up into the largest chain of newsagents in the country" — and he said Finlays would seek a stock market flotation.

In a statement to the staff, Mr Patel said there was no intention of making any of the 2,000 branch employees redundant. He said that fewer than five of the shops were unprofitable and it was the high expenditure of head office that had led to the chain making losses.

In its last financial year, the Finlays shops made trading losses of about £1 million.

Mr Patel plans to spend £1 million on computerization, introduce a customer complaints service and bring in designers to remodel the shops. On employment, he said: "When we expand our chain, we will prefer relatives of our employees."

Staff representatives appealed to Hanson Trust recently not to sell to Mr Patel and to consider proposals for a management buyout.

Leather groups in £60m tie

By Our City Staff

Britain's two largest leather producers, Pittard Group and Garnar Booth, plan a £60 million merger. Terms under which Pittard, of Yeovil, Somerset, will pay £24.6 million for Garnar, whose head office is in London, have been agreed between the boards.

The merger comes less than a month after Strong & Fisher, a third important company in the leather industry, dropped a £20 million bid for Garnar Booth after its reference to the Monopolies Commission.

Mr John Buckley, finance director of Pittard Group, does not foresee a Monopolies Commission probe into a Pittard-Garnar merger.

Under the agreed terms Pittard will offer 17 of its own shares for every 20 Garnar. After the announcement Pittard shares advanced 7p to 303p, placing a value of 257½p on each Garnar share and a price tag of £24.9 million on the business.

Garnar shares closed at 222p on Monday evening.

The two companies have sales of about £125 million, £80 million of which is in leather.

Forecasts beaten by Laing

By Michael Tate

Laing Properties yesterday unveiled profits of £17.7 million for 1986, compared with £15.5 million for 1985, and City expectations of around £17 million.

It plans to pay a final dividend of 4.5p which will make a total of 8p a share for the year, against 7p.

During the year Laing set about putting into action its decision to move away from shopping centres and into value-added developments, andthe consequent property sales have thrown up a surplus of £25.4 million, against a £4 million surplus last time.

Shifts in foreign exchange values clipped this by £1.9 million. A year ago the group had to bear currency losses of £24.7 million.

Net assets at the year end stood at £370 million, of which about two thirds was financed by shareholders' funds.

The chairman, Sir Kirby Laing, makes it clear that the company has further plans to broaden its interests in the property field and to concentrate more on short-term investment and development.

The latest target is Carl Icahn

SEC raids the raider

By Our City Staff

Mr Carl Icahn, the US corporate raider, is rapidly living up to his description in *Fortune* magazine this year as one of the year's 50 most fascinating business people.

The days are now long gone when some Wall Street quarters jokingly referred to him as "Carl-I Can't". However, the more recent reasons for his fascination to the US financial community will bring Mr Icahn little satisfaction.

Late on Monday, it emerged that Mr Icahn, who is chairman of Trans World Airlines (TWA), had become a target of a Securities and Exchange Commission investigation. Until then he was known only as a potentially helpful source of information to the SEC — as a recipient of one of the SEC subpoenas liberally dealt around in the wake of the Ivan Boesky affair.

It was TWA's current $1.65 billion (£1.04 billion) bid for the American airline US Air Group Inc which led to Mr Icahn revealing that he is now a target. It was contained in a mandatory filing TWA had to make with the SEC disclosing its 14.8 per cent stake in US Air.

The SEC investigation into Mr Icahn gives its officials powers to seek to discover whether he has violated any securities laws. In particular, it is looking into the purchase and sale of more than 5 per cent of the shares of a number of unnamed companies.


Icahn: "I have never traded on inside information"

Under US laws, anyone acquiring 5 per cent or more of a public company must disclose this within 10 days. This rule has been criticized in the past because the 10-day breathing space allows corporate raiders, such as Mr Icahn, to build up sizeable stakes before the need to disclose them bites.

Mr Icahn, who owns 62 per cent of TWA, was, for instance, able to build up a 20 per cent stake in the company before having to disclose it.

The connections between Mr Icahn, Drexel Burnham Lambert, the junk bond specialist, and, of course, Mr Boeksy himself have not gone unnoticed on Wall Street. However, Mr Icahn denies any illegal involvement with Mr Boesky. He issued a statement to that effect in response to mounting innuendo. "I have never had any business arrangements or partnerships with Mr Boesky with respect to the securities of any company. I have never traded on inside information" he said.

As for his management expertise, Mr Icahn, aged 50, claims to have rescued TWA from bankruptcy. However, some Wall Street pundits prefer to wait a little longer before passing judgement on the apparently remarkable turnaround in the company's fortunes.

Mr Icahn is an outspoken critic of US managements.

Some of his recent attempts to clear out management teams have not reached fruition. In January, he dropped his $8 billion bid for USX Corp — the big American steel and energy group. And the bid for the US Air Group has, for the time being at least, been blocked by the US courts.

Mr Icahn often emerges from supposedly failed bids as a much richer man. His stalking of Gulf & Western and American Can, reaped huge profits when he sold his stakes.

Was it all achieved legitimately? Wall Street is awaiting the outcome of the SEC investigation with considerable interest.

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MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York Dow Jones	2254.89 (+6.25)*
Tokyo Nikkei Dow	21514.73 (+99.36)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng	2629.28 (–40.29)
Amsterdam: Gen	274.0 (–0.1)
Sydney: AO	1629.5 (+0.3)
Frankfurt: Commerzbank	1692.5 (–9.4)
Brussels: General	4481.04 (–24.20)
Paris: CAC	438.8 (–0.4)
Zurich: SKA Gen	581.30 (–4.3)
London: FT. A	n/a
FT. Gilts	90.89 (+0.82)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10½%
3-month interbank 9⅝-9⅝%
3-month eligible bills: 9⅝-9¼% buying rate
US: Prime Rate 7½%
Federal Funds 6⁷/₁₆%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.59-5.58%*
30-year bonds 99¹³/₁₆-99¼*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.6010	£: $1.5980*
$: DM2.9370	$: DM1.8400*
£: SwFr2.4575	$: SwFr1.5395*
£: FFr9.7740	$: FFr6.1195*
£ Yen242.87	$: Yen152.00*
£ Index:72.1	$: Index:109.2
ECU £n/a	SDR £0.801589

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Glaxo	1590p (+29p)
Diploma	283p (+23p)
Western Motor 'A'	235p (+69p)
Garner Booth	243p (+21p)
Fisions	642p (+27p)
Siebe	1065p (+75p)
Dencora	168p (+22p)
Michael Peters	146p (+16p)
Standard Chart	758p (+16p)
Capital Radio	183p (+16p)
Eurotherm Intnl.	393p (+18p)
Blue Circle	757p (+14p)
Beecham	560p (+14p)
Courtaulds	404p (+12p)
Process System	32p (+12p)
Dixons	386p (+12p)
Britoil	229p (+15p)

FALLS:

Union Discount	878p (–20p)
Laing Property	377p (–11p)
Birmid	228p (–15p)

Prices are as at 4pm

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $406.00 pm-$406.35
close $404.75-405.25 (£253.25-253.75)
New York:
Comex $403.40-403.90*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (May,) pm $17.95bbl ($18.05)
* Denotes latest trading price

مكذا من الأصل

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Mar 87	90.29	90.35	90.27	90.38	579
Jun 87	90.80	90.87	90.78	90.85	2706
Sep 87	90.98	91.03	90.95	91.03	345
Dec 87	90.98	90.98	90.93	91.03	25
Mar 88	90.81	90.83	90.81	90.87	27
Jun 88	90.61	90.65	90.61	90.69	27
Sep 88	NT	—	—	90.48	0
Dec 88	NT	—	—	90.35	0

Previous day's total open interest 25138

Three Month Eurodollar					
Jun 87	93.56	93.57	93.53	93.56	1658
Sep 87	93.57	93.58	93.55	93.56	356
Dec 87	93.51	93.52	93.49	93.51	99
Mar 88	93.38	93.38	93.36	93.38	3
Jun 88	NT	—	—	93.21	0
Sep 88	NT	—	—	93.00	0
Dec 88	NT	—	—	92.79	0
MAR 89	92.57	92.57	92.57	92.59	1

Previous day's total open interest 20543

US Treasury Bond					
Mar 87	101-16	101-16	101-10	101-16	106
Jun 87	100-08	100-12	100-02	100-10	1288
Sep 87	NT	—	—	99-08	0

Previous day's total open interest 3288

Short Gilt					
Mar 87	NT	—	—	102-11	0
Jun 87	NT	—	—	—	
Sep 87	NT	—	—	—	

Previous day's total open interest 54

Long Gilt					
Mar 87	123-05	123-05	123-05	124-08	20
Jun 87	123-03	124-18	122-31	124-17	26259
Sep 87	NT	—	—	124-14	0
Dec 87	NT	—	—	124-18	0

Previous day's total open interest 18960

FT-SE 100					
Mar 87	199.30	202.90	199.30	202.90	440
Jun 87	103.00	206.05	203.00	206.05	172

Previous day's total open interest 4963

WALL STREET

	Mar 16	Mar 13		Mar 16	Mar 13		Mar 16	Mar 13
AMR Cp	56¼	56¼	Firestone	35¼	35⅞	Pepsico	34⅜	35
ASA	47¾	47¾	Fst Chicago	31	31⅜	Pfizer	73½	73⅝
Aetna Life	66⅛	67⅛	Fst Int Bncp	58⅜	58⅞	Phelps Dod	29⅝	30⅜
Allied Signal	46⅝	47¾	Fst Penn C	11	10⅞	Philip Mor	84⅛	85
Allis Chalm	2⅜	2⅜	FT Wachva	46⅝	46⅛	Phillip Pet	14⅝	14⅜
Alcoa	42⅝	43⅜	Ford Motor	78½	79⅛	Polaroid	69⅛	70⅞
Amax Inc	18⅝	18⅝	GAF Cp	43⅛	43⅝	Proct Gble	90¾	92⅝
AMR Hess	30⅜	29⅝	GTE Cp	41⅜	41½	Pub Svc Eg	41	41⅞
Am Brands	48⅜	49⅛	Gen Cp	88⅝	87⅛	Raytheon	77	77⅞
Am Can	48⅜	48⅜	Gn Dynam	76⅛	77	Rynlds Met	56⅝	56⅞
Am Cymmd	95⅜	96⅛	Gen Elect	104⅜	105⅜	Rockwell Int	54⅝	54⅝
Am Ele Pwr	28⅞	29⅛	Gen Inst	26⅛	26⅞	Royal Dutch	112⅝	112⅝
Amex	77	77⅛	Gen Mills	52⅝	53⅜	SFE Sopac	34½	34⅞
Am Home	90⅜	90⅜	Gen Motors	77⅞	77⅞	Sara Lee	43⅜	43⅜
Am Motors	4⅜	4¼	Gen Pub Ut	25⅞	26⅛	Schlumb	37⅞	37⅞
Am Stand	48	47¾	Genesco	5⅛	5	Scott Pap	78⅜	79⅛
Am Telph	23⅛	23⅛	Georgia Pac	46⅞	46¾	Seagram	71⅜	71⅝
Amoco Cp	77⅝	78⅛	Gillette	58⅜	59½	Sears Roeb	51½	52⅜
Armco Steel	7⅜	7⅜	Goodrich	56⅞	56⅞	Shell Trans	76⅝	76
Asarco Inc	20⅜	20⅜	Goodyear	53⅜	53⅛	Singer	46⅜	46⅝
Ashland Oil	66½	66⅞	Gould Inc	17⅝	17⅜	Smithkln Bk	111⅝	112⅝
Atl Richfld	75¼	73⅜	Grace Co	59⅜	60⅜	Sony Cp	21½	21⅜
Avon Prod	30	30⅛	Grt Atl Pac	31	31⅛	Sth Cal Ed	33⅜	33⅝
Bk Boston	33⅛	34	Grayhnd	35⅝	35⅝	SW Bell	116⅝	116⅝
Bank NY	42¼	42⅜	Grumman	29	29⅛	SW Ell	61⅝	60⅝
Bankamer	12⅜	12⅝	Gulf & West	80⅜	80⅜	Sterl Drug	54⅜	53⅜
Bkrs Tst NY	46¾	47	Heinz	47¾	47⅞	Stevens JP	41⅜	41⅜
Beth Steel	7⅛	7⅛	Hercules	59¼	59⅝	Sun Comp	58⅝	58⅛
Boeing	51½	52⅛	Hewlett Pk	56⅝	57⅜	TRW Inc	100⅜	99⅝
Boise Casc	76⅝	77⅞	Honeywell	70⅞	69⅝	Teledyne	336	338⅜
Borden	57	57	IC Ind	29⅜	29⅜	Tenneco	47⅜	48⅜
Borg Warnr	41½	41⅝	ITT Cp	63⅛	63⅜	Texaco	34⅜	34⅝
Brist Myer	99⅝	99⅛	INCO	15⅝	15⅝	Tex Eastn	34⅜	34⅝
BP	52⅜	51⅞	Ingersoll	76⅜	77⅜	Tex Inst	163⅜	164
Brunswick	41⅞	42⅜	Inland Steel	23⅛	23⅜	Text Util	34⅜	34⅜
Burl Ind	47⅞	47½	IBM	144¾	144⅝	Textron	65⅝	65⅝
Burl Nth	67	67⅜	Int Paper	97⅜	97⅛	Travelers	50⅝	50⅜
CBS	152⅝	154⅜	Inang Bk	47⅞	48⅜	UAL Inc	57⅞	58⅜
CPC Int	48⅝	48⅜	Jhsn & Jhsn	88⅞	89⅜	USG	41¼	41¼
CSX Cp	33⅜	33⅜	K Mart Cp	61⅜	62	USX Cp	25	25
Campbell Sp	65⅝	65⅞	Kaiser Alum	16⅝	17	Unilever NV	261⅝	261¼
Can Pacific	17⅞	18	Kerr McGee	32⅜	32⅛	Un Carbide	28⅜	28⅜
Caterpillar	46¼	46⅜	Kimbl Clark	111⅛	113	Un Pac Cp	74⅜	74⅜
Centrl SW	34½	34⅛	Kroger	34⅜	34⅜	Unisys Cp	99⅜	98⅛
Champion	37⅛	37⅝	LTV Cp	2¼	2⅛	Utd Brands	46⅛	46⅛
Chase Man	37⅞	38⅛	Litton	83	83⅛	Utd Tech	52⅝	52⅜
Chem NY	44¼	44⅜	Lockheed	50⅝	51⅛	Unocal	33⅜	33⅛
Chevron	53⅛	52⅝	Lucky Str	30⅛	30⅝	Walter Jim	57⅜	58⅜
Chrysler	52⅝	53⅜	Mam H'mer	44⅜	44⅛	Warn Lamb	76⅛	75
Citicorp	52	52	Manville	2¾	2⅝	Wells Far	51¼	52
Clark Eq	26⅛	26	Mapco	63	62⅛	Westg El	62¼	64⅜
Coca Cola	46⅛	47⅛	Marine Mid	49⅝	50⅜	Weyerhsr	53⅜	53⅛
Colgate	46½	47¼	Mt Marietta	47⅞	48⅛	Whirlpool	37⅜	38⅛
Columb Gas	51⅝	52	Masco	38⅝	38⅜	Woolworth	47⅛	47⅝
Cmb'tn Eng	38⅛	38⅝	Mcdonalds	75⅞	76⅛	Xerox Cp	71⅝	72⅜
Cmwlth Ed	36⅜	36⅛	McDonnell	77	78	Zenith	24⅝	24⅞
Cons Eds	44⅜	44½	Mead Cp	69⅝	69⅝			
Cn Nat Gas	38⅜	38⅝	Merck	155¼	153			
Cons Pwr	18⅝	19⅜	Minsta Mng	123⅜	124⅛			
Cont Data	27⅜	28⅛	Mobil	46	45⅜			
Corning Gl	65½	66	Monsanto	78⅝	79⅝			
Crane	42⅝	43	Morgan Jp	44⅜	45			
Curtiss Wrt	61	61	Motorola	50⅝	49⅞			
Data Genl	35⅞	35½	NCR	62⅛	63⅜			
Deere Co	28½	27⅝	NL Indstrs	5⅝	5⅝			
Delta Airl	57⅛	58⅜	Nat Distil	61½	62⅜			
Detroit Ed	17⅝	17⅞	Nat Md Ent	27⅜	27⅜			
Digital Eq	161	163½	Nat Semi	14⅜	14⅛			
Disney	98¼	98¾	Norfolk Sth	96¼	96¾			
Dow Chem	80⅜	81⅛	NW Bancrp	40⅛	39⅝			
Dressr Ind	27	27	Occid Petl	31	31⅛			
Dupont	107½	107⅞	Ogden Cp	67⅜	67⅛			
Duke Pwr	45⅞	46⅛	Olin Cp	49⅛	49			
East Kodak	75½	75¼	Owens Il	60⅜	60¼			
Eaton Cp	80½	81⅜	PPG Ind	42⅜	43⅛			
Emerson El	103⅝	104¾	Pac Gas El	24⅛	24⅜			
Emery Air	12⅜	12⅝	Pan Am	4¼	4⅜			
Exxon	82⅜	82⅝	Penney JC	97⅞	98			
Fed Dpt Sts	94⅜	94¼	Pennzoil	78⅝	79⅜			

STOCK MARKET

Indexes off to a flying start on Budget hopes

By Michael Clark

The Chancellor of the Exchequer may have been forgiven yesterday for thinking that details of his Budget had been leaked before he had even delivered it, judging by the reaction in the stock market.

Share prices were again surging ahead in early trading, convinced that this so-called "giveaway Budget" would live up to expectations.

It was the City's first Budget since Big Bang, with trading on the Seaq screens being extended to 7 pm. But there was no evidence of nervousness on the part of dealers. Even before the Chancellor had uttered his first word, the FT 30 share index was 13.5 up at 1,590.1, while the broader FT-SE 100 share index advanced by 16.2 to 2,008.0.

Government securities sported gains of more than £½ at the longer end, still hoping for an early cut in interest rates.

Hopes that Hepworth Ceramic would soon make an aggressive bid for Birmid Qualcast, the lawnmower and Potterton boiler manufacturer, have now evaporated after Hepworth decided to sell its remaining 5 per cent stake.

The 3.25 million shares were placed by Hoare Govett, the broker, at 226p with various clients. Birmid fell by 15p to 228p.

Earlier talks between them about an agreed merger ended in failure. Hepworth was then forced to halve the 10 per cent holding it had built up. But talk in the market suggested that Hepworth, up 6p at 220p, may now focus its attention on the TI Group's consumer division which includes Creda cookers. TI rose by 10p to 653p.

"Switch out of Cable and Wireless and into rival British Telecom" is the advice for clients from Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker. BZW has just downgraded its estimate of pretax profits at Cable and Wireless for the current year to March 31 from £345 million to £340 million. Last year, the group made £295 million. The broker has downgraded its estimate for 1988 by £12 million to £388 million.

BZW says: "In the short-term, the shares are ahead of events." The price currently stands at a 15 per cent premium to the rest of the market and will need to drift back towards the 300p level before attracting renewed support. C&W closed 9p cheaper at 353p, while BT firmed 5p to 249p.

Grand Metropolitan, the leisure and brewing giant, fell 6p to 482p after reports that James Capel, the broker, had trimmed its profit estimate for the current year, to September 30, by a few million. Most of the market had been looking for pretax profits of about £455 million.

But, despite Capel's cautious approach, other brokers are taking a more optimistic line. Vivian Gray says the shares are standing at a discount to the rest of the market which stems from the pound's strength against the dollar. Gray rates the shares as a "strong buy."

● **FRANKFURT:** Shares closed sharply lower as a report — which brokers called an unfounded rumour — that an anti-haemophilia drug sold by Bayer AG might have caused Aids sent chemical stocks tumbling and pushed the whole market down. The Commerzbank index fell by 9.4 to 1,692.5.

● **HONG KONG:** Prices dropped on steady, local selling for the fourth consecutive session. The Hang Seng index dropped by 40.29 points to 2,629.28.

● **TOKYO:** Stocks edged up on heavy volume, closing at a record. Traders reported that buying increased throughout the day. The Nikkei Dow Index rose from 21,415.37 to 21,514.73.

ALPHA STOCKS

Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000
Allied-Lyons	2,300	Gen Accident	486	Redland	287
Amstrad	4,100	GEC	2,000	Reckitt Colman	149
ASDA-MFI	10,000	Glaxo	1,400	Reed Int	253
Ass Br Foods	470	Globe IT	1,100	Reuters	484
BET	798	Granada	388	RMC Group	170
BTR	2,200	Grand Met	3,000	RTZ	691
BAT	3,000	GUS 'A'	74	Rowntree	1,000
Barclays	989	GRE	215	Royal B of Scot	437
Bass	1,000	GKN	1,500	Royal Ins	370
Beecham	3,100	Guinness	5,200	Saatchi	221
Blue Circle	484	Hammerson Pry 'A'	135	Sainsbury (J)	174
BOC	1,100	Hanson	3,500	Scot Newsll	1,000
Boots	3,700	Hawker Siddeley	100	Sears	7,600
BPB Ind	453	Hillsdown	1,700	Sedgwick Gp	395
BPCC	584	Imp Cham Ind	1,100	Shell	2,200
Br Aerospace	886	Imp Cont Gas	754	Smith & Nephew	4,600
Br Airways	—	Jaguar	447	STC	2,000
Br Gas	47,000	Ladbroke	536	Stan Chart	852
Br Petroleum	3,100	Land Securities	4,800	Storehouse	3,300
Br Telecom	9,600	Legal & Gen	902	Sun Alliance	116
Bristol	13,000	Lloyds	305	Tarmac	1,300
Bunzl	360	Lonhro	225	TSB P/P	5,700
Burton	2,400	Marks & Spencer	4,100	Tesco	1,700
Cable & Wireless	6,200	MEPC	2,100	Thorn EMI	718
Cadbury Schwep	921	Midland	431	Trafalgar House	517
Coats Viyella	447	Nat West	1,000	Trusthouse Forte	477
Com Union	985	P & O Dfrd	1,500	Unigate	677
Cons Goldfields	120	Pearson	494	Unilever	173
Coolson Gp	193	Pilkington Bros	1,300	Utd Biscuits	2,300
Courtaulds	974	Plessey	259	Wellcome	1,800
Dee Corp	3,000	Prudential	476	Willis Faber	131
Dixons Gp	5,300	Racal Elect	1,800	Whitbread 'A'	2,000
English China	226	Rank Org	782	Woolworth	823
Fisons	1,400	Rank Hovis	275		

THIRD MARKET

1986 High	1986 Low	Company	Price Bid	Price Offer	Change
232	180	Abelscot Group	217	227	n/c
50	10	Aberdeen Am Petrol	32	35	n/c
120	112	Allied Insumce	107	117	n/c
54	36	Catalyst Commercial	45	49	n/c
68	24	Corton Beach	62	67	−1
63	10	Eglinton Oil Ireland	39	41	+1
41	8	Do. Warrants	20	22	+1
24	17	Publishing Holdings	24	26	n/c
55	46	Theme Holdings	51	54	n/c
133	117	Unit Group	116	122	+2

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
Mar 16	Mar 27	Jun 25	Jul 6

Call options were taken out on: 17/3/87 Kwik Save, Parkdale, Hampton Trust, Cosalt, Tyne Tees, Property Trust, Grampian TV, Goodman, Crown House, Blacks Leisure, Harmony, Suter, Amstrad, Pericom, Davies G, R Clyde, Clear, 600 Group, Pelsart Res., Avesco, Capital Radio, J Israel, London Secs., Federated Housing, Abaco, North Kats., Cattle Holdings, Laing Property, Talbex, Ellis & Goldstein, Process Systems, Wm Boulton, SR Gent, Finn, Datron Intnl.

MONEY & GOLD

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 10½
Finance House 11

Discount Market Loans %
Overnight: High: 11¾ Low 11
Week fixed: 10½

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mnth 9⅛; 3 mnth 9⅜
Selling: 2 mnth 9⅝; 3 mnth 9¼

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 mnth 9¾-9⅝; 2 mnth 9½-9¾; 3 mnth 9¾-9⅝; 6 mnth 9⅜-9⅛

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 month 10⅜; 2 month 10¼; 3 mnth 10; 6 mnth 9⅛

Interbank (%)
Overnight: open 11⅛ close 15
1 week 10¼-10⅜; 6 mnth 9¾-9⅝
1 month 9⅛-9⅛; 9 mnth 9½-9¾
3 mnth 9¾-9⅝; 12 mnth 9½-9⅜

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 days 10¾; 7 days 10⅝
1 mnth 9¾; 3 mnth 9¾
6 month 9¼; 12 mnth 9¼

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 month 10⅜-10⅛; 2 mnth 10⅛-9⅛
3 mnth 10-9¾; 6 mnth 9⅛-9⅛
9 mnth 9⅛-9⅛; 12 mnth 9⅛-9⅛

Sterling CDs (%)
1 mnth 10-9⅛; 3 mnth 9¾-9⅛
6 mnth 9⅛-9⅛; 12 mnth 9⅞-9⅛

Dollar CDs (%)
1 mnth 6.50-6.45; 3 mnth 6.40-6.35
6 mnth 6.40-6.35; 12 mnth 6.50-6.45

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Dollar		call	6⅛-5⅛
7 days	6⅛-6⅛	1 mnth	6⅛-5⅞
3 mnth	6⅛-5⅛	6 mnth	6⅛-6⅜
Deutschemark		call	4¼-3¼
7 days	4⅛-3⅛	1 mnth	4⅛-3⅛
3 mnth	4⅛-3⅛	6 mnth	4⅛-3⅛
French Franc		call	8¼-7⅛
7 days	7⅛-7⅛	1 mnth	8⅛-7⅛
3 mnth	8¼-7⅛	6 mnth	8⅛-8
Swiss Franc		call	1¾-¾
7 days	1⅛-⅞	1 mnth	4⅜-4⅛
3 mnth	4¼-4⅛	6 mnth	4⅛-4
Yen		call	4⅛-3⅝
7 days	4⅛-4	1 mnth	4⅛-4⅛
3 mnth	4⅛-4⅛	6 mnth	4¼-4⅛

BULLION

Gold: $404.75-405.25
Krugerrand (per coin, ex vat): $ 407.50-410.50 (£258.00-257.50)
Sovereigns (new, ex vat): $ 97.00-98.00 (£60.75-61.50)
Platinum $ 522.00 (£327.90)
Silver $ 5.5650-5.5850 (£3.4850-3.5060)

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period January 31, 1987 to February 27, 1987 inclusive: 10.896 per cent.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	11.00%
Adam & Company	10.50%
BCCI	10.50%
Citibank Savings†	12.45%
Consolidated Crds	10.50%
Co-operative Bank	10.50%
C. Hoare & Co	10.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	10.50%
Lloyds Bank	10.50%
Nat Westminster	10.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	10.50%
TSB	10.50%
Citibank NA	10.50%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Admiral Comp (150p)	180
Barbour Indx (215p)	343 −2
Br Airways (as)	125 +2
Capital radio (105p)	185 +18
Dale Group (110p)	131
Glentree (16p)	46
Gordon Russell (190p)	242 +7
Halls Homes (95p)	171 −2
Hewetson (70p)	91
Hobson Pub (250p)	370 +5
Hornby (100p)	106
JSB Elec (115p)	136
Johnson Fry (150p)	193 +10
Lloyds Chemist (105p)	193
Lon & Metro (145p)	216
MIL (144p)	190 +1
Misys PLC (95p)	135 +4
Nobo (152p)	172
Plum Pldgs (90p)	146
Prism Leisure (120p)	152 −3
RCO (95p)	101
Regina H Beauty (20p)	42
Sanders Sydney (100p)	142
Scandinavian Bk (210p)	250 −3
Sinclair G S (90p)	100
Thornton G W (135p)	171 −1
TSB Group (100p)	78
Virgin (140p)	175½ −½
Ward Group (97p)	128
Wilson Bowden (130p)	140 −1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Allebone N/P	14 −2
Burgess F/P	258
City Site Est N/P	212
Cookson F/P	573 +10
Widney N/P	10
Wiggins F/P	168

(Issue price in brackets).

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

	Market rates day's range March 17	Market rates close March 17	1 month	3 months
N York	1.5910-1.5920	1.6005-1.6020	0.51-0.48prem	1.30-1.25prem
Montreal	2.0650-2.1035	2.1003-2.1035	0.56-0.52prem	1.44-1.37prem
Amst'dam	3.2583-3.3240	3.3185-3.3240	1⅝-1¼prem	3½-3¼prem
Brussels	62.45-60.86	60.72-60.86	16-11prem	40-30prem
Cphgen	10.9583-11.0585	11.0920-11.0585	1¼-1⅝dis	3¼-4⅝dis
Dublin	1.0899-1.0989	1.0971-1.0981	par	par
Frankfurt	2.9184-2.9421	2.9370-2.9421	1¼-1¾prem	4¼-4prem
Lisbon	224.56-226.84	225.85-226.84	50-142dis	247-360dis
Madrid	204.62-206.05	205.55-206.05	74-105dis	207-257dis
Milan	2072.46-2090.91	2085.45-2060.91	2prem-par	2prem-1dis
Oslo	11.0415-11.1435	11.1170-11.1435	4¼-4¼dis	12¾-13¾dis
Paris	9.7109-9.7882	9.7660-9.7882	1¾-1¼prem	4¼-3¼prem
Stkhlm	10.2015-10.2685	10.2480-10.2685	1¾-2¼dis	3¾-4¾dis
Tokyo	240.86-243.42	242.95-243.42	1¼-1¾prem	3¾-3¼prem
Vienna	20.49-20.60	20.57-20.60	10¾-9¾prem	25¾-24¾prem
Zurich	2.4389-2.4640	2.4585-2.4640	1¾-1¾prem	3¾-3¼prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up at 72.1 (day's range 71.7-72.1).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	2.4513-2.4626
Australia dollar	2.3202-2.3235
Bahrain dinar	0.6025-0.6034
Brazil cruzado*	32.3743-32.5561
Cyprus pound	0.7550-0.7638
Finland markka	7.1948-7.2075
Greece drachma	214.20-214.21
Hong Kong dollar	12.4586-12.4672
India rupee	20.45-20.65
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4412-0.4421
Malaysia dollar	4.0181-4.0223
Mexico peso	1715-1785
New Zealand dollar	2.8035-2.8165
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9927-5.9960
Singapore dollar	3.4105-3.4144
S Africa rand (fin)	5.5670-5.5675
S Africa rand (com)	3.3236-3.3962
U A E dirham	5.8340-5.8740

*Lloyds Bank.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.4540-1.4570
Singapore	2.1405-2.1415
Malaysia	2.8200-2.8210
Australia	0.6868-0.6873
Canada	1.3155-1.3160
Sweden	6.4025-6.4075
Norway	6.9425-6.9475
Denmark	6.8900-6.8950
West Germany	1.8308-1.8316
Switzerland	1.5320-1.5330
Netherlands	2.0850-2.0700
France	6.0675-6.0625
Japan	151.15-151.25
Italy	1800.5-1302.0
Belgium(Comm)	37.94-37.97
Hong Kong	7.8012-7.8017
Portugal	140.80-141.30
Spain	128.62-128.72
Austria	12.89-12.91

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Allied Lyons (*394)	330	68	75	85	1	3	6
	360	40	53	65	4	12	16
	390	20	35	47	15	22	27
British Gas (*85)	60	25	28	31	½	¼	1
	70	16	20	23	½	2	3
	80	7½	13	14¾	2	4¾	7
British Airways (*125)	100	26	28	32	1	2¼	4½
	110	16½	21	25	1½	5	9
	120	9	13½	18	4	9½	14
BP (*821)	700	130	150	165	2	8	12
	750	85	105	125	9	15	22
	800	48	68	92	22	27	37
Cons Gold (*835)	700	145	164	173	3	8	12
	750	95	117	130	8	17	22
	800	57	87	109	18	30	42
Courtaulds (*404)	330	79	86	96	1½	5	8
	360	54	68	78	6	11	20
	390	30	48	58	13	25	34
	420	16	33	41	29	41	45
Com Union (*324)	300	32	42	53	7	12	15
	330	13	29	41	19	23	25
	360	5	18	27	40	48	50
Cable & Wire (*354)	325	38	—	—	3	—	—
	350	20	—	—	14	—	—
	360	—	30	43	—	30	37
	390	5	18	30	49	50	60
GEC (*211)	200	17	27	36	2	10	13
	220	7	18	23	16	20	24
	240	3	9	15	32	38	42
Grand Met (*482)	420	68	80	92	1	4	7
	460	37	52	65	6	18	23
	500	15	32	43	30	37	43
	550	3	13	28	70	75	80
ICI (*1313)	1300	60	110	130	35	55	80
	1350	37	80	105	62	80	100
	1400	20	60	85	105	110	130
	1450	15	45	70	145	145	160
Land Securities (*388)	330	60	64	76	1	4	4
	360	33	42	55	4	10	14
	390	14	23	35	14	19	26
Marks & Spen (*233)	200	35	41	46	2	4	6
	220	20	27	31	4	11	13
	240	9	15	22	16	22	26
Shell Trans (*1224)	1100	128	130	152	11	27	42
	1150	78	100	125	28	40	55
	1200	45	65	88	52	62	82
Trafalgar House (*331)	280	54	61	74	2	3	6
	300	34	44	56	4	8	13
	330	17	24	38	15	20	26
TSB (*78)	70	10	13	15½	1	2¼	3
	80	3	6½	8½	4½	6	7
	90	¾	2	—	13½	13½	—
Woolworth (*835)	700	145	155	170	1½	4	8
	750	95	110	120	3	15	20
	800	50	65	85	17	25	50
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Beecham (*560)	420	140	150	158	1	2	3
	460	100	115	127	1	6	9
	500	60	82	91	1	13	20
	550	12	43	60	6	30	38
Boots (*295)	260	17	32	36	3	11	16
	300	4	24	28	10	24	29
	330	1	15	20	37	47	53
BTR (*340)	300	41	48	60	1	7	12
	330	12	28	36	2	16	21
	360	2	13	23	33	30	37
Bass (*944)	800	150	185	190	1	5	13
	850	100	120	145	1	13	22
	900	50	86	115	2	27	40
Blue Circle (*757)	650	110	117	125	1	8	13
	700	60	80	95	2	14	22
	750	13	48	65	10	30	40
De Beers (*1088)	950	150	175	220	4	22	42
	1000	100	145	195	4	35	60
	1050	—	125	175	—	70	85
	1100	—	95	155	—	95	115
Dixons (*385)	321	64	80	88	¼	3	5
	351	34	54	60	¼	7	14
	381	6	36	42	5	20	26
GKN (*335)	280	54	55	63	¼	5	9
	300	34	40	47	1	14	17
	330	8	24	29	4	25	29
	360	1

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Safe journey

Lloyd's of London breathed a sigh of relief this week when Van Gogh's painting "Sunflowers" returned safe and sound from a three-week tour of Tokyo, New York and Zurich. When it comes under the auctioneer's hammer at Christie's in London on March 30 it is expected to fetch about £10 million, making it the most expensive painting ever — *the previous* record was "The Adoration of the Magi" by Mangtengna, sold for £8.1 million two years ago. The Van Gogh, which was allocated its own seat on the aircraft which transported it, was insured at Lloyd's through Lowndes Lambert, the insurance broking arm of Hill Samuel, at a cost to Christie's of £100,000. It is being sold from the estate of Mrs Helen Chester Beatty, whose late husband was, for almost 30 years, chairman of the mining finance house Selection Trust, now part of BP.

● **The first new recruit of *Times* journalist-turned-financial PR man Desmond Quigley, who left Streets Financial in November to form Quigley Associates, will be Nigel Powers-Jones from Dewe Rogerson. He starts, perhaps unwisely, on April 1. John Gunn's British & Commonwealth has, I hear, invested £250,000 in return for a 25 per cent share stake. And B&C man Duncan Abbot, a former corporate finance director at Messels, is joining the board.**

Daly bread

London lad John Daly, who formed a small film production company called Hemdale Films with actor David Hemmings 20 years ago, has made good in America. Daly, who is no longer associated with Hemmings, is now based in Los Angeles, and has already grossed more than $100 *million from his latest film Platoon* released in the US in December. The film is favourite to win the Best Picture Oscar at the end of this month and — to complete the hat-trick — he is now in the process of reversing into shell company Computer Memories, which will give him a quote on Wall Street. Sounds like another brain-drain success story.

Cheltenham tie

Sir Nicholas Goodison and his team at brokers Quilter Goodison, who were still smarting yesterday over suggestions that their share shops had been kicked out of Debenham stores by Sir Ralph Halpern, are, I hear, talking to the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society about setting up their new money centres in some of its key branches. The idea seems a good one — particularly as the building societies are keen to expand into financial services — but Quilter's Paul Killick is not prepared to say much. "We hope to be able to go live with our plans shortly," he says.

Carol Leonard

CORPORATION TAX

Reform that paved way for Lawson's finest hour

The foundations of yesterday's Budget were *laid three years* ago when Mr Nigel Lawson introduced sweeping changes to the corporation tax system, abolishing the main reliefs and lowering the rates. This was a classic example of tax reform advocated by "supply-side" economists, who argue that economies are more efficient when the tax burden is spread widely but thinly. *The effects of the reforms* have been far more profound than expected. Among them there have been large increases in corporate tax payments, which will finance the reduction in income tax announced yesterday.

Under the pre-1984 system, "initial allowances" gave immediate tax relief on 100 per cent of the cost of investment *in plant and machinery*. This encouraged investment, particularly in manufacturing. There were similar but generally less generous reliefs for other investments and relief was also given on stock appreciation.

The reliefs allowed many companies to avoid mainstream corporation tax — although they paid advance corporation tax (ACT) on dividend distributions. Tax losses were carried forward to future years, so companies paid no tax even after their profits had recovered, a phenomenon known as "tax exhaustion". These effects were reinforced by the fall in profits in 1980 and by leasing, which allowed financial companies to use the tax relief from tax-exhausted manufacturers. As a result, mainstream corporation tax revenues fell from 7.5 per cent of total tax revenues in 1973-74 to just 3 per cent in 1982-83.

Econometric studies at the London Business School and the Treasury suggest that the allowances raised fixed investment and stockholding. However, the effects on industrial *performance are debatable.* Manufacturing output was lower at the peak of the 1979 cycle than it had been in 1973 and productivity growth fell to a post-war low. The 1980 recession was exaggerated by the rundown of inventories from the high levels that had been built up.

The new tax system announced in 1984 was phased in slowly. The standard rate of mainstream corporation tax fell from the pre-reform rate of *52 per cent in stages to reach* 35 per cent in the 1986-87 financial year. Stock relief was abolished immediately, but initial allowances were cut gradually and finally replaced by "writing down" allowances in 1986-87.

Mr Lawson claimed that the changes would have little overall effect on Exchequer revenues. Most manufac*turing companies were likely* to pay more tax, but it was expected that this would be balanced by lower payments elsewhere. The outcome has been very different. Corporation tax payments by non-oil companies have grown rapidly, from £4.25 billion in 1983-84 to an estimated £9 billion in 1986-87. In the 1987-88 financial year, higher *non-oil corporate taxes will* virtually replace the North Sea revenues lost due to last year's fall in oil prices.

This exceptional rise in tax payments is partly due to two special effects of the 1984 reforms. The first arises from the "tax-exhausted" companies. The reduction of reliefs raised taxable profits for these companies, so they began to use up their past losses much more quickly.

Even so, at 1983 profitabil*ity it would have taken several* years before most of these companies ceased to be tax-exhausted. The key to understanding what happened is to note that profit growth accelerated sharply after the 1984 Budget, thus speeding up the process. Either the 1984 reforms or the rise in profits taken alone would have moved companies back into tax only rather slowly, but the two events together have ended tax-exhaustion very quickly.

The second special effect arises because Britain is now an attractive country for multinational companies to pay tax in. As the chart shows, the highest rate of tax on *corporate earnings is substan*tially lower than in West Germany and has been much lower than in the US. Even after tax reform in the US, British rates will be below the total figure payable in many US states. The proposed changes in West Germany will have little effect on the comparison.

What about the impact of *the reforms on investment* and stockholding? Mr Lawson argued that his reforms would help to reduce unemployment by removing the previous bias towards manufacturing and towards capital-intensive methods in all sectors.

In the short term, the changes boosted investment in 1985 as companies hurried to take advantage of initial allowances before their removal. As expected, this was followed by a fall in investment in the second quarter of 1986 when initial allowances were finally abolished and replaced by the less generous writing-down allowances.

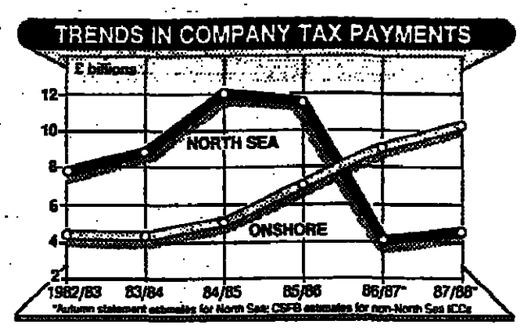
The longer-term effects are not yet clear. Other things being equal, the reforms should reduce capital expenditure. Yet total business investment was at an all-time high in 1985 and fell only marginally in 1986. Moreover, surveys suggest a strong recovery in all sectors this year. Also, the shift away from investment in manufacturing and towards other business sectors due to the reforms would not have started until manufacturing finally lost all of its advantage in April 1986. The data show that such a switch had already begun even before the 1984 Budget and has continued over the last three years.

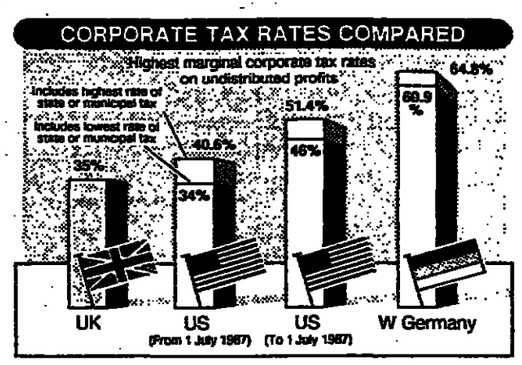
This suggests that other influences on investment have been more powerful than the reforms over the last three years. The high real exchange rate, until mid-1986, moved investment away from manufacturing. This factor is now reversed, with a lower nominal exchange rate and a very low rate of growth of British unit labour costs.

Even if total investment does fall as a result of the reforms, this will not necessarily be bad for employment. The econometric estimates mentioned earlier suggest that if interest rates did not fall, the reforms would raise the cost of capital by about 4 percentage points in manufacturing and by about half that in other businesses. This, in turn, would cause greater use of labour, raising employment by an estimated 100,000 in manufacturing and by rather more in other businesses.

However, the total cost of capital depends on the level of interest rates as well as the level of tax allowances. Using some of the high corporate revenues to cut government borrowing and hence reduce interest rates could mean that the overall cost of capital may be close to the level that it would have reached without the reforms. That would be the classic result expected from tax reform: higher revenues and fewer distortions.

Giles Keating
Peter Spencer
Credit Suisse First Boston Ltd.





Seven beneficial years of MTFS discipline

The *Medium Term Financial* Strategy (MTFS) was first introduced on Budget Day in 1980. Yesterday saw its seventh anniversary. In those seven years, output growth (as measured by gross domestic product) has averaged about 1.8 per cent a year and retail price inflation has averaged 6.8 per cent. The previous seven years saw growth at 1 *per cent* and inflation at 15.7 per cent.

It may not be simply cause and effect, and we saw a deep recession in 1980; but I believe that the remarkable combination of economic growth and low inflation (after its peak in mid-1980) owes much to the discipline imposed by the strategy.

In 1980, the Government *said its medium-term* objective was "to bring down the rate of inflation and to create conditions for a sustainable growth of output and employment." The main instrument for cutting inflation was to be a progressive reduction in the growth of the money supply. The "supply side" of the economy was to be strengthened by tax and other incentives and by improving the working of markets.

The actual figures in the first version of the MTFS included ranges of growth of the money supply over the next four years and a path for the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) expressed as a ratio of GDP.

The main purpose of the *MTFS was to affect* expectations in a way that would speed up the move to lower inflation and help reduce the inevitable costs associated with the change. If people believed the Government would maintain the strategy and if they believed the strategy would work, it was hoped that interest rates and wages, for example, would fall more rapidly.

The Government included a path for the PSBR because it wanted to cut monetary growth without relying excessively on interest rates. It accepted that the relationship between the PSBR and the growth of the money supply was complex, but it argued: "there is no doubt that public sector borrowing has made a major contribution to the excessive growth of the money supply in recent years." Thus it regarded a reduction of the PSBR as an essential part of its counter-inflationary policy.

How has the MTFS fared? In terms of its prime objective, inflation fell more rapidly than almost anyone expected. Also, the growth of output up to 1983 was close to the Government's original assumption. The Government assumed that output would rise at an average annual rate *of 1 per cent* between 1980 and 1983 after falling by 2½ per cent in 1980.

In the event, the average growth was 1.2 per cent. Since 1983, growth has averaged more than 2½ per cent a year.

Inflation fell faster than anyone expected

The details of the MTFS have changed from year to year but all the developments have been consistent with the ideas presented in its first version. It was recognized, for example, that £M3 (or "broad money") might not remain a reliable indicator: "the way in which the money supply is defined for target purposes may need to be adjusted from time to time as circumstances change."

The Government allowed itself discretion to alter the target rate of growth of the money supply for later years. Further, it deliberately emphasized that the course for the PSBR should not be *interpreted as a target path.*

That need for balance has been evident ever since. In 1981, despite the severe recession, the Government deemed it necessary to tighten fiscal policy considerably to demonstrate its commitment to the strategy. In later years it has broadened its attention to other indicators of financial policy, including the exchange rate, interest rates and other measures of the money supply.

Drop in interest rates should have been greater

The original choice of monetary target, £M3, was unfortunate. It rapidly ceased to provide a clear and simple guide to inflationary pressures and this was partly because of the Government's own actions.

The move to greater competition and freer markets in the monetary sector forced the banks to offer more favourable terms to their depositors. In addition, the fall in inflation made money a yet more attractive asset to hold.

The rule of thumb that Money GDP would rise about 1 per cent a year more rapidly than £M3 has failed hopelessly. The target for £M3 was suspended in the autumn of 1985. It was brought back in the last Budget, but its reputation remains tarnished.

Mr Lawson has said that inflation is "judge and jury." However, it is one thing to show that inflation has fallen during the past seven years and quite another to establish that the MTFS can take the credit for this success. My view is that the great contribution of the MTFS has been in the constraint it has placed on the Government's actions.

The Government has recognized that control of inflation is in its hands, and has bound itself to a course of fiscal and monetary policy which virtually removes the risk of a rebound of inflation as long as the strategy is maintained.

One disappointment is that we have not seen a greater fall in interest rates. When the MTFS was first introduced, inflation was close to 20 per cent. Short-term interest rates were about 17 per cent and long rates about 14 per cent. Seven years later, *with inflation* at 4 per cent, we still have short rates above 10 per cent and long rates about 9 per cent.

This can be partly explained by generally high real interest rates throughout the world but I believe that high British interest rates reflect fears that the strategy will be abandoned. *It may be worth recalling*, therefore, that the proposal for the MTFS was first made when the Labour Government was in power and benefiting from the policies imposed by the IMF.

All governments need counter-inflationary strategies and their general form should not be a matter of political dispute.

Professor Alan Budd
London Business School

TRENDS

Competition will spur financial innovation

The pace of innovation in financial markets shows little sign of abating. Innovation was a marked response to economic instabilities of the 1970s and early 1980s; a second wave may occur as we move into an era of lower interest rates and stable prices.

The most dramatic example is securitization: packaging loans and mortgages into negotiable instruments, and the wider process of replacing bank loans with a variety of new financial instruments. Securitization has produced greater flexibility of and access to *finance for the users. But it has posed* problems for both banking control and the management of monetary policy.

Asset-backed securitization, largely based on house mortgages in the United States, surged to a record level last year. Figures from Salomon Brothers, the leading player in the field, show that gross issues of asset-backed securities totalled $280 billion (£177 billion) last year, more than double the 1985 figure. *Of this, about 95 per cent, or $265* billion, was in the form of residential mortgage-backed securities, although the packaging of car loans, credit card loans and commercial mortgages into securities also grew strongly.

After last year's surge, this year's total for asset-backed securitization may slip a little. Salomon Brothers predicts $240 billion for 1987, of which 85 to 90 per cent is likely to be in securities based on *house mortgages. Even so, the trend* remains firmly upwards, in both straightforward securitization and in other forms of by-passing traditional bank credit, such as note issuance facilities (Nifs) and commercial paper. The future of the floating rate note (FRN) market is a little less certain to predict, after recent well-publicized market difficulties.

The seminal work on financial mar*ket innovation was published by the* Bank for International Settlements last year. "Recent Innovations in International Banking," usually known as the Cross report, picked up on the massive shift from international bank credit to international securities markets. In the first half of the present decade, Eurobank loans fell from $100 billion to $25 billion a year, while international bond and note issues rose *from slightly more than $40 billion to* $160 billion annually.

The BIS report concluded that financial innovation had, in large part, been a by-product of economic dislocation, but also took the view that financial innovation had established a powerful momentum of its own. This, indeed, appears to be what is happening at present. Salomon Brothers cites stable house prices and low interest rates as a *factor likely to stimulate securitization* in residential mortgage backed securities. The US tax reform bill, by eliminating the deductibility of non-mortgage interest, may give a stimulus to mortgage-backed securitization, via a route familiar to observers of the British scene. This is the process, now expected in the US, whereby mortgage loans are used for the purchase of consumer durables.

The spur for the development of innovative financial instruments comes from several quarters. Very substantial payments imbalances exist between the world's main trading blocs. The US current account deficit will necessitate continuing large flows of savings and investment, of which the most obvious is that from Japan to the US. The easiest route from a post office savings account in Yokohama to Wall Street and the US financial system is via a marketable debt instrument.

Financial deregulation, which has run hand-in-hand with innovation, is a continuing process. The lifting of exchange controls, the removal of interest rate ceilings and the breaking down of barriers between financial markets, have provided the scope for innovation.

As importantly, banks' capital ratios are subject to close attention from the central bankers who supervise them. This has encouraged the banks into off-balance sheet activity, including note issuance facilities, swaps, options and forward rate agreements. Here too, the spur for innovation will continue. In the case of many banks, and not least the US money centre banks at present sweating over the debt situation on Brazil and other Latin American countries, the spur to develop off-balance sheet business will continue.

Financial innovation has also been encouraged by the technological change. Technology has cut the cost of transactions and speeded the dissemination of information. The global financial market is a reality now, much more so than in the early 1980s.

Computers have made it possible to devise and manage more complicated financial instruments than would have been conceivable in the past. Again this is a factor likely to grow rather than *diminish in importance.*

But perhaps the most important reason for thinking that financial innovation will persist at a vigorous pace is concerned with competition. The financial revolution, if it has meant anything at all, has been concerned with increased competition both within and between different financial markets. The more stable the economic environment, the greater the pressure on *different operators in financial markets* to innovate.

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, referred to the intensity of this competition in a speech this week. "I find myself worrying that the profits being made in some markets are inadequate to support the business being done. In the new and sophisticated markets in interest and foreign exchange risk instruments, pric*ing is at times so intensely competitive* as to make margins unrealistic."

It may be, of course, that intense competition will kill off enough of the players so as to call a halt to the process of financial innovation. It would be more realistic to expect the innovation process to continue at a strong pace.

David Smith
Economics Correspondent

TEMPUS

Expamet is lifted by acquisition

Superficially, Expamet International's 1986 results were excellent. Turnover jumped 33 per cent to £70 million, pretax profits went up 32 per cent to £5.8 million and earnings per share rose 16 per cent to 14.2p for the 12 months to December.

Closer examination reveals that the £1.4 million increase *in pretax profits* came entirely from Expamet's £15 million of acquisitions during the year.

Swings and roundabouts in its original businesses resulted in a flat performance overall. In essence, Expanded Metal was unable to repeat its record performance in 1985. There was a downturn in industrial orders in the second half and Middle Eastern orders suffered through the *fall in the oil* price.

In addition, there was a £300,000 non-recurring charge for redundancy and business consultancy.

Offsetting this, the security business is expanding at 20-25 per cent a year.

Losses in industrial building products have been eliminated and *this division* was in profit for the first two months of this year.

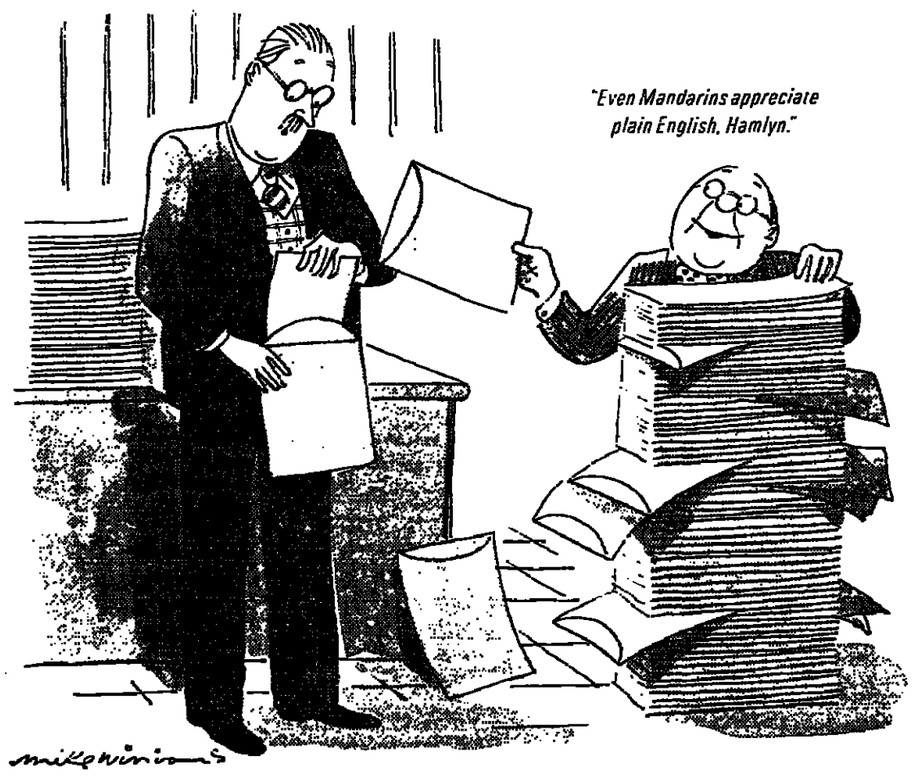
This year, the outlook in the heavily lossmaking US operations looks brighter. US Gypsum, the biggest supplier, has withdrawn.

Loss elimination and full-year contributions from the acquisitions made last year should allow the group to make £7.5 million *before tax* this year despite higher interest charges. The recent rerating has taken the prospective multiple to a shade above 14, which looks fair.

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General	162.1	172.4	+0.5	2.49
Japan	91.4	96.5	+0.3	..
UK Growth Inc	136.8	144.6	+0.5	1.06
Do Accum	196.4	206.9	+0.9	0.75
US Emerging Co's	63.0	67.0	-1.0	0.07
Equities Progress	266.5	274.9	+0.6	2.62
Masterlist Acc	75.0	80.0	+0.2	2.04
American Inc	51.7	54.9●	-0.5	4.78
AETNA TRUST LTD				
401, St. John Street London EC1V 4QE				
01-837 8494				
Australian	24.7	29.9	+0.1	0.00
Capital	397.2	420.8	..	2.49
Europe Growth Acc	161.7	172.4●	-0.4	1.27
Exempt	382.5	384.0●	+0.4	4.49
Far Eastern	206.0	220.3●	+0.4	0.10
Fin & Prop	74.9	79.3●	+0.5	2.66
High Yield	70.4	74.6	+1.0	9.91
Income	302.7	320.7●	+1.0	3.91
Int Earnings	194.3	205.8●	+1.2	2.18
Int Growth	89.0	95.3●	..	0.91
Japan Growth Acc	961.4	1018.4●	+3.0	3.91
Nat Resources Inc	233.0	248.1	+0.8	0.00
Nth Amer Gth Inc	127.9	135.8	+0.8	0.74
Preference Inc	120.5	127.8	+0.1	10.30
Small Co's Gr Inc	78.9	83.6	+0.6	4.17
small Co's Inc	272.1	288.2●	..	1.41
Special Sits Inc	142.2	150.6	+1.0	1.48
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS				
Allied Dunbar Centre Swindon SN1 1EL				
0793 613566 & 0793 28251				
UK Special Sits	275.9	292.4●	+0.6	2.74
Growth & Income	158.8	168.4c	+0.5	5.03
Capital Trust	270.3	286.5	+1.0	2.41
Balanced	434.8	460.9	+1.8	2.80
Accum Trust	661.1	700.8	+2.5	2.59
American Income	32.9	35.0●	-0.3	4.26
High Income Tst	297.5	315.3●	+0.7	4.13
Equity Income	166.8	180.0	+0.2	4.16
High Yield	173.6	184.0	+0.7	4.79
Govt Secs Trust	30.2	31.4	+0.1	7.77
International	101.2	107.8●	+0.4	0.57
Japan Fund	109.2	115.7●	+0.5	0.00
Pacific Trust	206.3	219.7	-1.3	0.07
Amer Spcl Sits	71.5	76.1●	+0.6	1.25
Secs Of Amer Tst	284.2	296.8	-3.0	0.48
Mid Ages Value	360.0	377.8	+0.2	2.54
Conv & Gilt Trust	40.3	42.6	+0.2	5.54
Smaller Co's	162.6	172.4	+1.0	2.53
2nd Smaller Co's	200.6	213.8●	+0.8	1.95
Recovery Trust	102.4	108.5	+0.5	2.29
ARBUTHNOT SECURITIES				
See Royal Trust Fund Management Ltd				
BAILLIE GIFFORD				
3, Glenaisla St, Edinburgh EH3 6YY				
031-225 2581 (Dealers: 031-225 6566)				
Ind Ex (20)	474.2	484.3	..	0.64
Japan Ex (43)	452.1	471.4●	..	0.20
Un. Ex (31)	268.0	285.1	..	1.28
P'sal Pens Inv	570.5	600.6	..	..
P'sal Pens UK	223.5	234.9	..	..
BG America	163.2	194.9	-2.0	0.00
BG Energy	157.9	166.9	+0.1	1.69
BG Hicpbnd Growth	247.8	263.7●	+1.3	4.26
BG Japan	212.5	215.5	+0.1	0.00
BG Technology	194.3	206.8	-3.9	0.00
BALTIC TRUST MANAGERS				
20, Copthall Street, London EC1				
01-374 6801				
American	51.1	54.4	-1.7	1.91
Australian	24.2	25.8	+0.2	1.56
Japan & General	127.8	136.0	+1.8	0.00
Far Eastern	84.1	89.5	+1.1	5.23
International Trust	90.7	96.5	-0.3	0.83
Income Gth Tst	59.5	63.3	+0.1	3.16
Gilts & Fixed Int	21.8	23.0c	+0.1	9.55
Global Markets	39.9	41.4c	+0.2	1.20
Special Situations	56.6	60.3	+0.3	1.66
BARCLAYS UNICORN				
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7				
01-534 5544				
America	96.8	102.4	..	1.07
Aust Accum	215.8	229.2	..	0.54
Do Income	151.9	160.7	..	0.54
Capital	84.2	89.1●	..	2.56
Exempt Trust	524.0	556.7	..	3.83
Extra Income	92.2	97.5	..	4.56
Financial	268.6	284.3	..	2.84
500	329.9	349.1●	..	2.57
General	169.8	179.6c	..	2.88
Gilt & Fixed Int	54.6	57.6●	..	8.54
Japan & Gen Inc	189.8	200.8●	..	0.00
Do Acc	192.9	203.1●	..	0.00
Growth Accum	207.7	219.7●	..	2.03
Income Trust	409.4	433.2	..	3.35
Leisure Trust	97.7	103.3	..	1.50
Special Situations	176.5	186.8	..	1.75
Recovery	262.0	266.6	..	2.08
Trustee Fund	127.9	135.3	..	2.51
BARING FUND MANAGERS				
PO Box 158, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XO				
01-658 6000				
Australia	88.9	94.7	+0.4	0.00
Eastern	75.7	80.9●	-1.1	0.10
Equity Income	70.6	75.1	+0.4	4.60
Europe	139.2	148.0	+1.1	1.00
Exempt Trust	23.9	24.5●	+0.2	..
Growth & Inc	74.2	78.6●	+0.3	3.99
Global Gth	67.0	71.2	..	2.01
Japan Special	112.9	119.2	+0.4	0.10
Japan Sunrise	93.3	99.3●	-0.4	0.10
First Europe	118.4	125.8	+0.4	0.00
First Japan	88.9	94.5	-0.4	1.10
First N Amer	53.9	57.3	-0.2	1.10
First Smaller Co s	86.2	91.6	+0.3	2.70
BARRINGTON MANAGEMENT				
10, Fenchurch St. London EC3				
01-623 8000				
Amer Smlr Co Inc	67.0	70.7	-1.0	0.00
Do Accum	68.8	72.6	-1.0	0.00
European Inc	91.9	96.5	+1.1	1.16
Do Accum	122.9	129.6	+0.9	1.36
Fund of Inv Tr Inc	25.3	26.7●	+0.6	1.78
Do Accum	32.5	34.2	+0.8	1.78
General Inc	172.7	208.0	-1.3	1.70
Gilt Yield Inc	272.9	287.9	-0.3	1.70
Do Accum	119.1	122.7	+0.3	9.98
High Yield Inc	196.3	207.2	+0.5	9.98
High Yield Inc	111.0	117.9●	+0.3	4.35
Do Accum	226.4	238.9	+0.6	4.35
Int Rec Inc	122.1	128.8	-0.3	1.71
Do Accum	129.0	136.1	-0.3	1.71
Japan Inc	222.7	235.0	-0.4	0.25
Do Accum	239.1	252.3	-0.4	0.25
Japanese Spec Inc	109.2	115.2●	+0.9	0.32
Do Accum	109.8	115.8●	+0.9	0.32
N American Inc	57.0	60.1	-2.6	0.53
Do Accum	66.2	69.8	-3.0	0.53
Pacific Inc	143.9	151.8	-1.1	0.57
Do Accum	162.3	171.2	-1.2	0.57
Planned Investment	153.7	162.4	..	4.17
Smaller Co's Inc	168.6	174.6	..	0.79
Smaller Inc A	129.5	136.7	+0.1	0.79
UK Equity Gth Inc	33.6	35.4●	+0.1	0.48
Do Accum	33.6	35.7●	+0.2	0.48
Worldwide Tech Inc	45.4	48.1●	+0.2	0.00
Do Accum	49.9	52.6	-0.2	0.00
XB High Yield Inc	153.8	162.3	-0.1	4.75
Do Accum	260.5	274.8	-0.1	4.75
BROWN SHIPLEY				
8-17, Pennymount Rd. Haywards Heath				
0444 458144				
Financial	157.5	157.8●	+0.4	2.18
Smaller Co's Acc	309.8	326.8	+1.1	..
Do Income	197.1	208.5	+0.8	0.77
High Income	81.5	86.7●	+0.2	4.56
Income	94.2	100.2	+0.2	4.09
Man Portfolio Inc	84.5	90.2	+0.1	2.27
Do Acc	143.4	152.5	+0.1	..
North American	68.2	69.4	+0.1	1.29
Orient	88.5	94.6	-0.4	0.30
Exempt	265.6	269.8	+3.0	2.09
Recovery	96.4	70.2	+0.4	1.22
Stermark	30.6	32.0	..	0.49
Technology	135.5	145.2	-0.4	0.28
Europe	22.9	24.4●	+0.1	0.76
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT				
The Stock Exchange London EC2P 2JT				
01-588 3968				
Fellowship Inc	61.8	65.8●	..	3.20
General Inc (4)	287.1	294.8	..	1.74
Do Accum (4)	453.5	474.8	..	1.74
Income Fund (3)	125.6	131.2	..	4.73
Do Accum (3)	224.5	234.3	..	4.73
Ins Inc (2)	147.6	153.6●	-1.3	1.05
Do Accum (2)	199.1	204.8●	-1.8	1.05
Smaller Inc (5)	81.7	86.6	..	1.17
Do Accum	87.8	93.0	..	1.17
CS FUND MANAGERS				
125, High Holborn, London WC1V 6PY				
01-242 1146				
CS Japan Fund	91.9	97.8	-0.2	0.51
CANNON FUND MANAGERS				
1, Olympic Way, Wembley, HA9 0NB				
01-902 8876				
Growth	342.5	364.4	..	2.62
Income	480.2	495.8	..	3.98
Far East	244.8	260.5	..	0.24
North American	170.0	180.9	..	0.77
Global	55.8	59.8●	..	1.28
European	85.4	90.8	..	1.28
Japan	59.4	63.6	..	0.50
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT				
PO Box 551 Bevis Marks London EC3 7JQ				
01-621 0011				
Capital	424.9	452.1	+0.9	1.54
Income	350.1	372.5	+0.4	4.03
North American	322.7	343.3	-3.9	0.72
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND				
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ				
01-588 1815				
Income	443.46		..	4.40
Accum	£13.2437		..	..
Deposit	100.0		..	10.65
CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH				
0800 373393				
Amer Growth	27.8	29.5	..	1.99
Equity High Income	55.1	58.4●	..	3.50
European Growth	30.8	32.6	..	2.00
General Equity	48.6	52.7	..	2.00
Gilt & Fixed Int	31.3	33.0	..	9.50
Gvt & Fixed Int	25.5	26.9●	..	9.50
Intl Inc Tst	25.5	27.0	..	5.00
Japan Growth	37.0	39.2	..	0.50
Pedigree Gth	30.7	32.5	..	2.50
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS				
St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ				
01-283 7500 Dealing 01-588 3818				
UK & Gen Inc	55.2	59.8	+0.4	2.83
Do Accum	56.2	59.8	+0.4	2.83
Income Inc	56.2	59.8	+0.2	4.10
Do Accum	56.2	59.8	+0.2	4.10
Worldwide Inc	52.7	56.1	-0.2	1.72
Do Accum	52.7	56.1	-0.2	1.72
COUNTY UT MANAGERS LTD				
161, Cheapside, London EC2V 6EU				
01-726 1999				
E uro G rth S tsst	74.8	79.2	-0.2	0.67
Extra Income	209.8	221.5	-0.1	3.98
Financial	202.4	214.2●	+1.2	2.24
Sth East Asia Gth	75.3	79.7●	-1.3	2.01
Gilts (Gross)	45.4	48.0	+0.2	11.04
Income & Growth	50.6	53.5●	+0.1	3.69
Japanese Growth	222.9	235.9	+2.3	0.53
Nth Amer Growth	115.1	121.7	-2.3	0.69
Ind Recovery	131.3	138.7	-0.5	0.70
Smaller Co's	284.9	301.5●	-0.7	1.23
Global Inc Tst	62.6	66.2●	-0.2	6.60
Special Sits Acc	353.7	374.3	+1.6	1.22
CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES				
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW				
04862 5033				
High Income Trust	305.4	324.8	-0.2	4.59
Growth Trust	277.3	295.0●	+1.0	2.44
American Trust	143.7	152.9	-1.9	0.65
CRUSADER UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Regatta, Surrey RH2 8BL				
07372 42424				
UK Income	58.1	61.9●	+0.2	4.72
UK Growth Accum	66.7	71.0●	-0.2	2.41
Do Dist	65.8	70.0●	-1.1	2.41
European Growth	62.0	66.0	-0.1	1.86
Pacific Growth	62.6	66.7	+0.5	0.61
EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
4, Melville Crescent, Edinburgh				
031-225 3482				
American Fund	75.3	80.1	-1.3	1.25
Capital Fund	132.2	141.6	..	1.22
Growth & Inc Fund	164.3	174.9	+0.8	3.57
High Dist Fund	143.9	153.1	+0.8	4.38
International Fund	227.3	242.0	-2.3	0.53
Pacific Fund	23.5	25.0	-0.2	1.00
Resources Fund	29.7	31.6●	-0.2	0.52
Smlr Jap Co's Fnd	31.1	33.1	-0.3	..
Tokyo Fund	199.1	202.4	+2.4	0.00
(Ex) Aver (2)	151.5	153.7	-1.4	1.93
(Ex) Japan (3)	111.5	114.0	..	0.17
(Ex) Pacific (4)	144.3	145.1●	..	0.00
(Ex) Smaller Jap (4)	182.3	187.3	..	0.10
Eurofund	27.1	28.8	-0.1	1.74
EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ				
0242 521311				
UK Balanced Inc	87.5	92.8	+0.4	2.66
Do Accum	89.6	95.1	+0.4	2.49
UK Growth Accum	115.8	122.9	+0.4	1.57
UK High Inc Inc	87.7	93.0	+0.2	3.75
N American Accum	75.8	80.8	-1.2	0.66
Far Eastern Accum	116.9	124.7	-0.3	1.61
European Accum	89.1	95.0	-0.3	1.21
UK Gilt & Fi Inc	56.5	59.9	+0.3	8.16
Do Accum	60.0	63.7	+0.2	7.69
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
Admin Centre, Hexagon House, 28, Western				
Road, Romford RM1 3LB				
0708-68966				
Endurance	125.8	134.7	..	2.65
EQUITABLE UNITS ADMINISTRATION				
35, Fountain St. Manchester				
061-236 5685				
Equitable Pelican	93.5	99.5	+0.4	2.85
High Income Trust	91.8	97.7	+0.5	4.80
Gilt & Fixed Int	53.5	57.0	+0.3	8.91
Tst Of Inv Trusts	94.9	99.4●	+0.2	4.51
Special Sits Trust	95.7	102.9	+0.3	1.59
Nth Amer Trust	85.1	88.3	-0.9	1.53
Far Eastern Trust	103.8	110.5	..	0.41
Ind Growth	58.9	61.9●	-0.8	1.04
EQUITY & LAW				
St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1GD				

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
0203 553231				
UK Growth Accum	180.6	192.1	+0.6	2.73
Do Income	154.9	164.7	+0.6	3.91
Higher Inc Accum	209.0	222.7	+0.8	3.51
Do Income	244.2	259.7	+2.7	3.61
Gilts/Fixed Accum	105.9	111.4●	+0.3	8.33
Do Income	95.3	99.7●	+0.3	8.33
Nth Amer Tst Accum	164.4	169.9	-3.5	0.00
Far East Tst Accum	179.4	190.8	-0.3	0.00
Euro Tst Accum	182.7	173.0	-1.0	0.78
General Trust	200.2	200.2●	..	2.57
F & C UNIT MANAGEMENT				
1, Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA				
01-623 4680				
US Smaller Co's	77.5	82.5	-2.0	0.18
Capital Fund	122.2	130.1●	-1.4	0.18
UK Income Fund	89.3	95.0●	..	4.18
Far Eastern Fund	77.1	82.1	-0.9	0.00
Overseas Income	75.2	80.0	-0.2	3.35
Fixed Interest	61.4	65.4	..	9.55
Nmuns Rep Fund	83.0	88.0	-0.6	8.62
European Income	83.0	88.4●	+0.5	2.85
Financials Fund	54.7	57.9	-0.2	2.60
FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS				
Pitheavn End, Dunfermline, Surrey				
0306 885055				
FP Equity Dist	238.6	254.3	..	2.30
FP Accum	239.7	428.5	..	2.30
FP Fixed Int Dist	117.6	125.1	..	5.74
Do Accum	138.9	147.7	..	5.74
Stewardship Dist	214.8	228.0	..	1.37
Do Accum	222.7	236.7	..	1.37
FP North American	134.3	142.3	..	1.29
FP Pacific Basin	198.9	200.3	..	0.24
GT UNIT MANAGERS				
8th Floor, 8, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ				
01-283 2575 Dealing 01-626 9431				
Amer Special Sits	78.9	81.9	-0.1	0.50
UK Cap Fnd Inc	128.2	136.4●	+1.6	2.20
Do Accum	185.7	197.6●	+2.4	2.20
Income Fund	95.9	102.1●	+0.2	5.60
Pension Exempt	219.5	226.7●	+0.1	1.40
International	182.8	194.3●	-0.5	0.30
US & General	58.1	61.9	-0.5	0.70
Japan & General	257.4	273.9	+0.2	0.10
Far East & Gen	141.2	150.3	+1.2	0.10
European Fund	263.8	280.5●	-1.4	0.10
Germany Fund	62.9	67.0	-0.6	1.00
Intl Inc Fund	88.2	93.6	+0.1	4.20
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
2, St Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP				
01-623 1212 Dealing 01-623 5768 Dealing 01-623 5806				
American Trust	94.3	99.8	..	0.70
Australian Trust	31.5	33.3	+0.5	0.15
British Tst Accum	67.6	71.5	..	1.63
Do Dist	67.6	71.8●	..	1.63
Commodity Share	85.1	90.7	+0.3	1.50
European Trust	53.7	56.5●	+0.3	0.68
Extra Income Trust	60.7	64.5	+0.3	10.00
Far Eastern Trust	147.4	155.2	-1.2	0.21
Fixed Interest Fund	25.8	28.4	..	9.23
Frontier Mkts	24.1	25.4	+0.1	0.47
Intl Fixed Int Tst	24.7	26.0	..	11.94
Global Fund Accum	186.3	208.8	+0.2	0.41
Do Dist	186.3	198.5	..	0.41
Gold Share Trust	20.0	21.3	-0.2	0.53
Hedged American	97.2	102.4	-0.4	0.00
High Income Trust	173.5	182.7	+1.2	4.50
Hong Kong Trust	38.0	40.3●	..	1.20
Income Fund	96.3	101.4●	+0.7	2.92
Japan Trust	141.4	148.8	-0.9	0.00
Managed Exempt	305.1	317.5	+0.4	3.23
Oil & Energy Trust	41.0	43.2●	+0.3	2.70
Special Sits Trust	129.9	137.5	..	0.82
UK Smlr Co's Rec Tst	100.0	105.3	+0.6	0.00
Cheltenham UK	25.1	27.5	+0.1	2.00
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT				
Winchester Hse, 77, London Wall, London EC2N 1DA				
01-588 5820				
Intl Growth	95.8	101.9	+0.1	1.05
American Growth	74.7	79.4	-1.0	2.15
American Inc	74.0	78.7●	..	..
European Growth	238.5	244.4	+1.1	0.34
Gold & Minerals	62.1	66.0	-0.2	0.00
Japan Growth	163.4	168.7	-0.4	..
GRE UNIT MANAGERS				
Royal Exchange, EC3P 3DN				
01-588 5926				
Gilt & Fixed Int	120.9	125.7●	+0.5	8.87
Growth Equity	254.2	269.0	+3.1	1.67
Guardfall	342.9	365.3●	+4.8	2.25
N American	153.9	166.1	-3.0	0.00
Pacific	284.7	301.3	+0.2	0.00
Property Share	336.5	356.1●	+1.0	1.12
Smaller Companies	266.8	282.4	+0.9	1.37
European Trust	277.4	293.6	-1.3	0.48
GUINNESS MAHON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
PO Box 442, 32 St Mary-at-Hill, London EC3P 3AJ				
01-626 9031				
Select Income	139.1	146.5	+0.2	4.09
Select Growth	74.7	78.7	-0.2	1.86
Select Recovery	74.0	78.0●	-0.1	1.00
Select Smlr Co's	87.8	92.5	-0.1	0.00
Select Europe	84.2	88.7	+0.1	1.89
Select Far East	48.0	50.6	-0.1	0.00
HAMBROS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Admin: 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex.				
Enquiries 0277 227300 Dealing 0277 217916				
Hambros Smlr Co's	169.2	178.5●	+0.9	1.44
Hambros N Amer	71.2	75.5	-1.2	0.00
Hambros Jap & F E	134.4	142.5	-0.3	0.00
Hambros Scandvn	80.5	85.4	-0.9	0.00
Hambros European	103.2	109.1c	-0.2	0.84
Hambros Capital	67.2	61.2	-0.5	1.06
Hambros Equity Inc	105.4	111.8	+0.3	4.20
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Amer Ramsay Tst	115.4	122.8	-1.7	0.16
Amer Smaller Co's	58.8	60.2	-0.8	0.01
Australasian	93.1	98.2	..	1.52
Capital Growth Inc	71.7	75.6●	+0.9	1.43
Capital Trust	92.8	98.1●	+1.1	1.43
European	266.2	283.2	+0.7	0.68
Euro Inc Tst	48.0	51.3	-0.2	4.44
Euro Smaller Co's	110.3	117.3	-1.5	1.06
Extra Income	216.3	230.0●	+0.6	3.70
Financial Trust	188.5	200.5	+0.4	2.21
Fixed Interest Tst	54.2	57.5●	+0.2	9.44
Far East Trust	41.7	44.4●	+0.1	1.69
Global Healthcare	88.8	94.0	-1.1	0.01
Global Inc.&Gth	65.4	69.2	-0.5	4.96
Global Resources	107.9	113.8●	+0.8	0.01
Gold	75.8	80.4●	..	1.39
High Income Tst	234.5	248.5	+0.9	3.86
Income & Assets	91.2	96.8	+0.4	4.17
Income & Growth Inc	182.2	193.8	+1.7	2.76
Do Accum	361.2	384.3	+3.2	2.75
Income Assets	134.3	142.8●	+0.6	3.68
Internationalist	118.3	125.8	+0.7	0.47
Japan Special Sits	158.1	210.7	+3.1	0.01
Japan Tst	176.4	190.0●	+1.3	0.01
North American	153.9	163.7	-1.2	0.00
Pacific Smaller Co's	91.1	96.8c	-1.5	1.18
Prof & Gth	48.6	51.8●	..	8.55
Recovery Tst	138.7	147.5●	+1.0	2.11
Sterling Bond	98.3	104.6●	+0.2	9.44
Singapore & Malay	133.9	142.4●	+0.3	1.47
Special Sits Dlr	153.9	163.7	+0.3	0.00
Special Sits Inc	174.5	185.6●	+1.2	0.88
Do Accum	246.2	261.9●	..	0.88
Worldwide	224.3	238.6	+1.2	0.00
Euro Exempt	139.1	138.9●	..	1.24
Global Tech Exempt	99.4	101.5	..	0.01
High Income Exempt	152.4	160.4●	+1.0	4.98
Japan Exempt	183.5	194.4●	+1.5	0.01
N American Exempt	93.6	99.5	+1.5	1.54
Pacific Exempt	191.0	201.1	+2.5	2.22
Smaller Co's Exempt	149.3	157.2	+0.6	1.58
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European Trust	132.8	139.0	-0.3	0.00
Far East Trust	142.8	150.9	-2.4	0.00
Financial Trust	411.0	435.0●	+0.6	2.48
Gilt Fixed Int Inc	29.3	30.5●	+0.1	8.51
Do Growth	42.6	42.5	+0.1	8.99
High Yield Trust	80.5	85.1	+0.5	4.35
Income Trust	99.5	105.3	+0.5	3.91
International	143.9	152.5	-1.9	1.79
Japan Tech Tst	37.4	39.5	-0.2	0.00
Managed Resources	48.5	51.4	-0.2	0.78
Security Trust	233.0	246.6●	+1.6	2.58
Smaller Cos	118.0	124.9	+0.5	1.45
Special Sits	119.7	126.7●	+0.5	1.96
US Smaller Cos	29.8	28.4	-0.4	0.88
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ISI Gilt & Fixed	72.3	77.1	..	4.13
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3	Jacksons Bourne	Industrials E-K	
4	Attwoods	Building,Roads	
5	Morland	Breweries	
6	Usher Walker	Paper,Print,Adv	
7	Hepworth Ceramic	Industrials E-K	
8	Im Signal & Control	Electricals	
9	Reed (Austin)	Drapery,Stores	
10	Mowlem (John)	Building,Roads	
11	Lopex	Paper,Print,Adv	
12	Deritend Stamping	Industrials A-D	
13	Centrovincial	Property	
14	VG Instruments	Electricals	
15	Coates Bros	Chemicals,Plas	
16	Abbott Mead	Paper,Print,Adv	
17	Gleeson (MJ)	Building,Roads	
18	Olives Paper	Paper,Print,Adv	
19	Dalgety	Industrials A-D	
20	Higgs & Hill	Building,Roads	
21	Heywood Williams	Building,Roads	
22	Ayrshire Metal	Industrials A-D	
23	IBL	Electricals	
24	Deeltsral	Mining	
25	Freemans	Drapery,Stores	
26	First Leisure	Leisure	
27	Kelsey Ind	Industrials E-K	
28	CASE	Electricals	
29	Gieves	Industrials E-K	
30	Argyll	Foods	
31	Blagden	Chemicals,Plas	
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33	Kwik Save	Foods	
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37	Tiphook	Shipping	
38	Silkolene	Oil,Gas	
39	Lon Park Hotels	Hotels,Caterers	
40	Kleinwort Benson	Banks,Discount	
41	Marshalls (Halifax)	Building,Roads	
42	Hammerson	Property	
43	NEI	Electricals	
44	Microgen	Electricals	
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MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

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THE ANTIQUES WORLD

Paintings turn sunny side up

The imminent demise of the London art market is announced about as often as the end of the world, and with equal certainty. One reason that it fails to materialize is that the business is so diverse and so many different interests touch upon it.

Two new galleries have opened in London during the last month, and apart from the common factor of pictures they could hardly be more different. At 55 Old Town, Clapham, there is the Sporting Gallery, set up by Mary-Ann Wingfield to bring the country to the city dwellers, and at 64 New King's Road, near Parsons Green, Anna-Mei Chadwick has opened shop to some works by living British artists, from £20 to £2,000.

Another comparative newcomer to London is Yu-Chee Chong, from Singapore. From March 24 to April 11 she will be showing paintings and drawings of South-east Asia and the East Indies in her small upstairs gallery at 2 Whitehorse Street, W1. The show is an interesting and attractive mixture of the historical, the topographical and the botanical.

Although an older foundation, the Belgrave Gallery has moved away from its origins in recent years to settle at 22 Masons Yard, off Duke Street, St James's. The gallery's tradition of an annual modern British paintings show has been maintained, and this year's exhibition opens today and runs until April 10.

After 40 years in Barnes, that remarkable institution Abbott and Holder is moving to 30 Museum Street, WC1, a location which they say, reassuringly, "has a pleasantly un-chic, academic air." They have taken a whole house, which will soon be as full of reasonably-priced watercolours, prints and a few oil paintings as the old premises. The move should take place in May.

Other dealers' exhibitions this month include "Audubon's Birds of America," in both the engraved and the chromolithographic versions, at the Schuster Gallery, 14 Maddox Street, W1 from tomorrow until April 14; oriental carpets and rugs shown by Simon and Jo Boosey at the Manor House, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, from March 28 to April 5; and a first West End show in a long working life for the distinguished printmaker Paul Drury at Garton & Cooke, 39-42 New Bond Street, W1.

That the highest stratum of the London art market is also serene is demonstrated by the show of the month, "The School of Bologna, 1570 to 1730," at Harari & Johns, 12 Duke Street, St James's. It includes six unpublished paintings by Annibale Carracci as well as newly discovered works by Lodovico Carracci and Guido Reni. About half of the 25 paintings will be for sale. The others have been loaned by museums and private collectors.

In the sale rooms, the event of the month will undoubtedly be the appearance of one of van Gogh's most famous images at Christie's on March 30. This is the largest of his seven versions of *Sunflowers*, and it is confidently expected that it will make more than £10 million. Although this will be a record for the statisticians, in real terms it will not equal the £2.3 million paid for *Juan de Pareja* by Velasquez in 1970.



Artistic variety: A 1796 Chinese watercolour from the Yu-Chee Chong exhibition and (below) a 19th century cricketer from Christie's MCC sale



The London art and antiques market is confounding the prophets of doom with a great variety of items, from one of Van Gogh's best-loved pictures to cricket memorabilia. Huon Mallelieu gives some pointers to buyers who are spoilt for choice

The French Impressionists and Post-Impressionists are universally so bankable that we can expect to see the pendulum of taste and fashion swing away from them before long. If taken together, several of the current crop of picture sales provide an instructive opportunity to assess what was going on in other countries and schools during the latter part of the nineteenth century and the early years of the present one.

Today at Bonhams there is an album of amateur sketches of the West Indes made during the 1870s. The artist is unidentified, but may well have been an officer on the staff of one of the colonial governors, and the album could well prove to be cheap at its estimate of up to £700.

On March 25, Sotheby's will be offering what they claim to be the largest painting ever put to auction, *Midvinterblot*, or Winter Solstice, by the Swedish painter Carl Larsson. This mythological scene measures 21 ft by 44 ft 7½ ins, and it has a price estimate of up to £100,000. It is the star lot in a sale of Scandinavian works from 1880 to 1930.

The years around the 1917 Revolution in Russia produced an outburst of creative activity which both paralleled and developed from events in the West between 1910 and 1914. In the early 1970s there were a number of London sales devoted to this Russian avant-garde, which met with mixed success.

On April 2 Sotheby's will be trying again, and this time I suspect that it will prove a more satisfying experience for them. With prices expected to range from £500 to £70,000, this is still a reasonable market in comparative terms, and one that could have a bright future.

On March 31, Christie's South Kensington will be holding a sale of tribal art and ethnographical artefacts from around the world; during the month ahead there are two other sales which perhaps cater for the same instincts and tastes at home.

The first is Sotheby's disposal of the Kay Desmonde Museum Collection of toys and dolls on March 24, which includes such English tribal figures as a William and Mary wooden doll of about 1690 (up to £15,000).

The second English tribal sale will be held by South Kensington on behalf of MCC on April 13. More than 1,000 lots have been culled from the collection at Lords.

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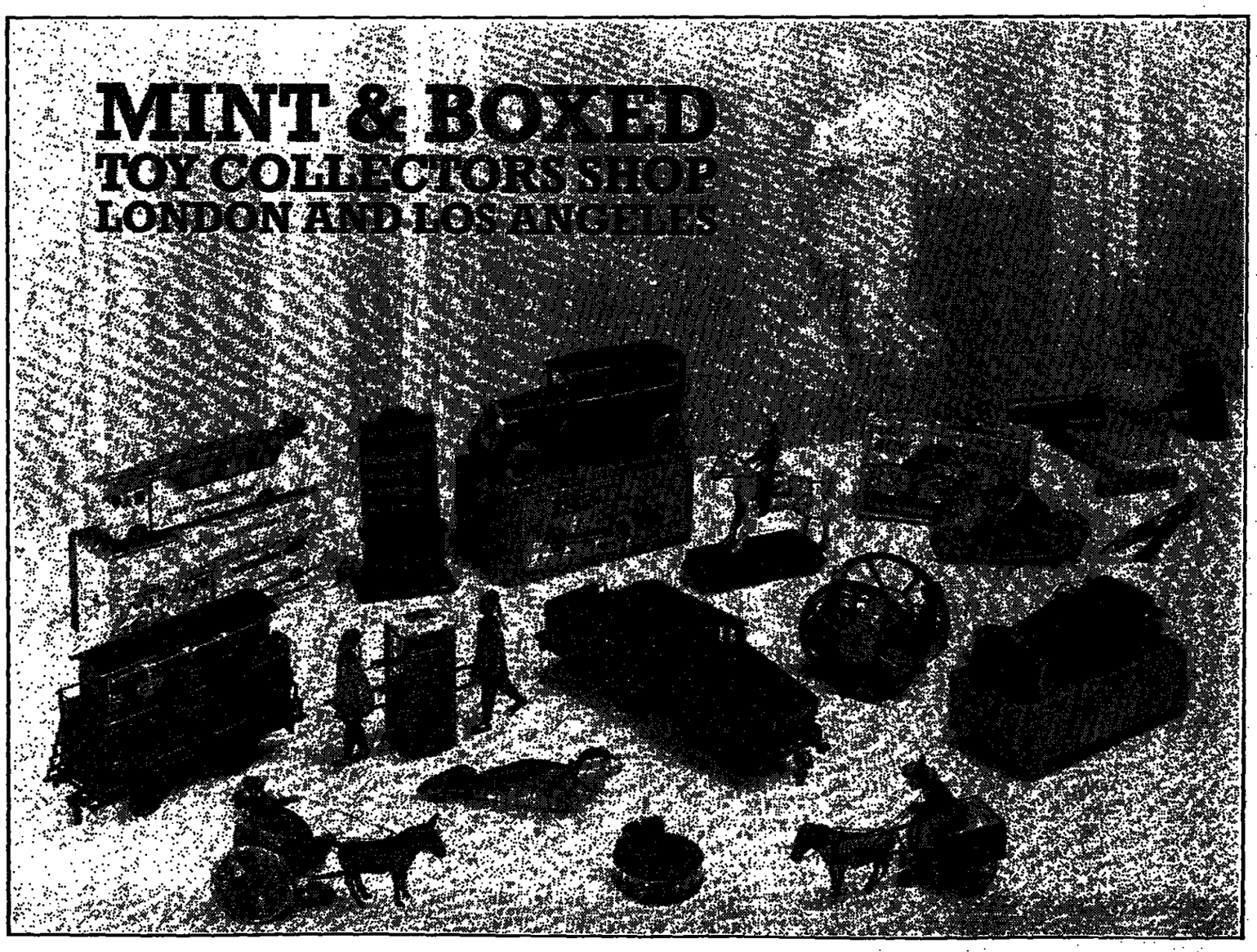
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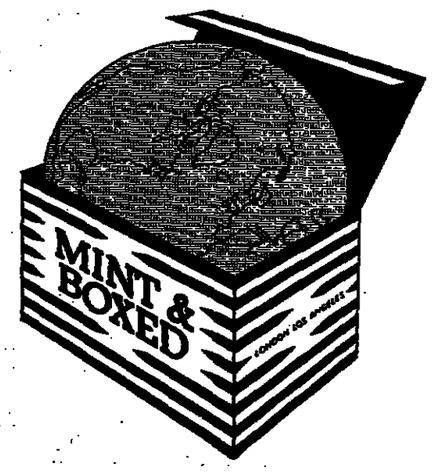
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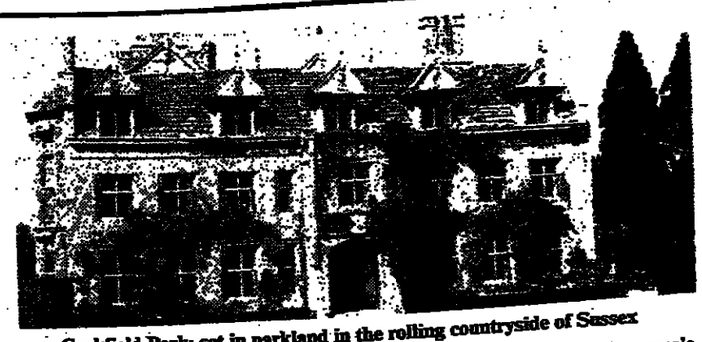
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Mansions to sell at a million apiece



Cuckfield Park: set in parkland in the rolling countryside of Sussex

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Ten years ago, the million-pound country house was a rare property indeed. The largest estates would qualify, but little else. Now, although the number of properties breaking that barrier means that it is not so remarkable, there are several houses on the market at present that fall into this category — and every one of them is remarkable in its own way.

Their marketing has been planned over many weeks or months, which is why the glossy brochures contain pictures taken on a sunny day in 1986 when the leaves were on the trees, in order to catch the early 1987 buyers before the opposition has organized itself. Thus at least five country houses, all with land, appear at about the same time.

Cuckfield Park, a fine Grade II* Elizabethan house, is set in parkland in the rolling Sussex countryside close to the village of Cuckfield. It was formerly the seat of the Bowyer and Sergison families.

Work began on the house in 1574 and was completed in 1848 with the addition of a south wing. Like any respectable old house, it has its share of legends and ghosts (now exorcized), but its outstanding features are from the Elizabethan period, including ornate plaster ceilings, a Renaissance carved wood screen, and fireplaces, many incorporating the arms of Elizabeth I and Henry Bowyer.

The restored and modernized house has the original panelled reception hall, a morning room with carved screen dated 1581, a drawing room with a carved overmantel reputedly by Grinling Gibbons, a dining room, a billiard room, an orangery and a study. The main reception rooms look out over the croquet lawn and grounds to the south.

The house is set mainly on two floors, with three bedroom suites and six further bedrooms, with yet more bedrooms on the lower ground floor. Until the present owners bought Cuckfield Park, it had been a school, and there is both planning permission for a four-bedroom detached house and consent for a change of use for the main house to a 20-person retirement home. The agents, Knight Frank & Rutley, believe this house will best suit a private buyer. It is approached down a lime avenue to a 16th-century gatehouse, and stands in about 34 acres, which include a lake.

Cuckfield Park is in that part of Sussex not yet settled by the international businessman, and the agents point out that it has excellent communications and is 15 miles from Gatwick Airport and an hour from London. The asking price is "substantially" over £1,250,000.

Elegant Queen Anne house in 90 acres

Hampton & Sons is offering three properties in the million-pound club class demonstrating what the buyer can expect in different parts of the country. Avebury Manor is a Grade I listed property on the edge of the National Trust village of Avebury, Wiltshire. It was built around 1557 on or close to the site of a small Benedictine monastic cell.

It was enlarged in the 17th century and remains one of the most important of England's houses in private ownership, with a drawing room, a Queen Anne dining room, a library or Great Drawing room, 10 bedrooms, a self-contained staff wing and a separate cottage.

Avebury Manor is set in parkland and paddocks of nearly 19 acres, which include a Tudor dovecote built of chalk stone blocks cut from the Avebury ditch. The price is around £1 million.

East of London, in Epping Forest, Hampton is selling an elegant Queen Anne house surrounded by an estate of about 90 acres. Parts of Coopersale House date back to 1615, and generations of the same family, the Archers, lived there until 1891. The original Queen Anne part forms the centre of the present house, and the remainder has been carefully restored and extended in keeping with the original style.

It has three reception rooms, six main bedrooms and three further bedrooms, with a panelled billiard room and an indoor swimming pool complex. The lawns lead down to a lake of nearly four acres, and yet the property is only a mile and a half from the market town of Epping.

It is unusual in that, only 19 miles from London, it has such large grounds. The asking price is £1.5 million.

With Culver Lodge, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, Hampton completes an architectural trio — a Georgian house set in about 60 acres, looking over parkland towards the river Ash, on the edge of the village of Much Hadham.

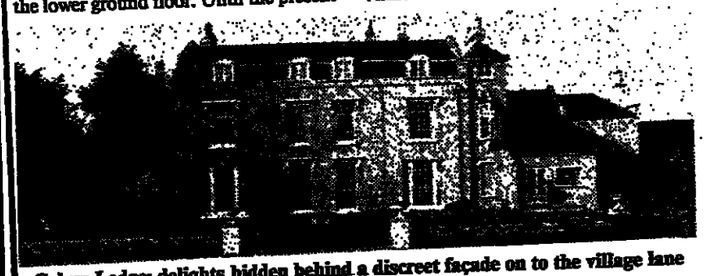
The house has a double drawing room, a dining room, a study, five main bedrooms and five secondary bedrooms. A three bedroom flat and cottage stand in the grounds.

There are a modern swimming pool complex adjacent to the house, and a courtyard and stables. The house has a "discreet" façade on to the village lane, with its hidden delights behind. The guide price is £1.2 million.

The Sutton Court estate at Pensford, Avon, is the family estate of Lord O'Hagan, MEP for Devon, who is reluctantly selling it and hoping the new owners "will be able to afford to look after this very special place in a way I cannot afford".

The Grade II* house, about 15 miles from both Bath and Bristol, has been the ancestral home of the Strachey family for more than 300 years. It is mainly Elizabethan but is surrounded by one of the largest 14th-century curtain walls in England. The 10-bedroom house has not been lived in by the family for more than 10 years and needs extensive renovation.

The estate includes two farmhouses, five cottages and 540 acres of land, of which 166 acres are let. Savills' London and Salisbury offices are asking for offers of more than £1.1 million for the whole. The house is priced at £270,000, but the agents believe it is unlikely that Sutton Court can ever again provide a home for one family.



Culver Lodge: delights hidden behind a discreet façade on to the village lane

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W2 Studio, newly dec, fitted klt, bed & carpets. Long lease. Low o/c. £49,950. Tel: 01-402 2887 (Eves)

ST JOHN'S WOOD Penthouse. 2 beds, pretty recep, sunny balcony, lux klt/bath. Gas CH 995 yr lse. Low o/c. £98,000. 289 6663/4463(T)

W11 LONSDALE ROAD Lux mod 4 bed, 2 rec, klt & b'fast, 3 baths (2 ensuite), fitted kit, sep gdn, garage. A magnificent property, inspection essential. Freehold. £525,000. Tyser Greenwood & Co. 01 994 7022

HOLLAND PARK W14 Massive 1/2 bed, 1 recep flat in and fit to suit. Sh/t lease. £175,000. Call Aspen 01 586 2215

LANCASTER GATE W2 Mod block, 3 beds, rec, klt and bath. CH, lift, patio. Lse 85. £135,000. Cranvilles 221 4935.

MAYFAIR - Curzon Street. Lge 1 bed apart in serviced block. £145,000 inc contents. ACRE 586 8811.

PIMLICO Newly Conv lux 2 bed patio flat, prime spot. 99yr lease. £99,500. View today (0227) 721692/463229/66268

OLD BATTERSEA SQUARE SW11
1 remaining in this luxury redevelopment of 3 'early Victorian' townhouses. Offering spacious and elegant accomodation.
£230,000 FREEHOLD
SPENCERS
223 8787/228 8366
MON - FRI

KINGS ROAD Fulham end (Eaglees Lane). Newly constructed 2 bedroom maisonette with 850 sq ft commercial studio below. Ideal photographer/designer. £180,000. Weekend/eves 01 673 2482 Day 01 482 4181

W6 Lge 2 bed 1st flr period flat, split level, sunny roof terrace. F/F klt & appliances. FH. £105,000 quick sale 741 2726.

W2 Studio, newly dec, fitted klt, bed & carpets. Long lease. Low o/c. £49,950. Tel: 01-402 2887 (Eves)

ST JOHN'S WOOD Penthouse. 2 beds, pretty recep, sunny balcony, lux klt/bath. Gas CH 995 yr lse. Low o/c. £98,000. 289 6663/4463(T)

W11 LONSDALE ROAD Lux mod 4 bed, 2 rec, klt & b'fast, 3 baths (2 ensuite), fitted kit, sep gdn, garage. A magnificent property, inspection essential. Freehold. £525,000. Tyser Greenwood & Co. 01 994 7022

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PIMLICO Newly Conv lux 2 bed patio flat, prime spot. 99yr lease. £99,500. View today (0227) 721692/463229/66268

CHISWICK, W4
Immac., archit-designed split level Penthse with roof tce. Lge bright recep. on 2 levels. 2 dble beds, bath & shower rm. fit. klt, study/3rd bed. Near Turnham Green Tube & shops. 120 yr lse. Offers £120,000. Tyser Greenwood & Co. 01-994 7022

BAKER ST, W1
Marble entrance hall, massive roof gdn, 24-hr porterage. A selection of 4/6 bedrm flats available. Long/short leases. Modernised/Unmodernised.
PALACE PROPERTIES
01-486 8926

CHISWICK, W4
A spectacular & substantial early Georgian residence. 5 bedrooms, 4 receptionrooms, conservatory, playroom, 3 bathrooms, shower room, large kitchen, south garden, garage. A magnificent property, inspection essential. Freehold. £525,000. Tyser Greenwood & Co. 01 994 7022

CHISWICK, W4
Sympathetically modernised Edwardian property which is in immac dec order & offers 4/5 bedrms & 2 bathrms. O'looking playing fields, the property has an attractive rear garden & is currently located close to Chiswick's excellent amenities £240,000 f/h.
WINKWORTH
994 7096

BARBICAN EC2 5th floor, end block all-round balcony, 120 yr lse (int. 2/3 beds, 1/2 reception, din rm, fr kitchen, bathrm, sep wc, hall with entrance phone. Caretaker, parking, storage. Fully furn £165,000. Unfurn £160,000. 0494 714010

HARLEY STREET. Luxury 2 bedroom flat in p/b block with garage. £280,000. Tel 01 935 4191.

PARSONS GREEN SW6 Spacious bright studio, ext kitchen, bath, hall. 5 mins tube. £58,000. Tel: 01 731 4803 Eves/Weekends.

W14 SINCLAIR ROAD New top floor 2 bed flat with terrace, architect designed, share of FH. £108,000. Tel 01 602 5713.

KENSAL RISE Large Vict hse/house & m Marble Arch. Tiled hall, 4 bed, 2 rec, mod kitch, bath, 2 wcs, fitted robes, CCH, GCH, garden with vine, workshop. £310,000. 01 960 0628.

ST JOHNS WOOD, NW8. Delightful studio apt in period bldg with all amens. Studio rm, lux klt, bathrm/WC, comm gdns. £60,000. Pemberton & Clark 01-586 5999 open today 11-1

ES Large Victorian house immaculately restored & maintained. 3/4 bedrooms, large garden, many extras. £122,000. Telephone 01 254 3782 anytime

PARK LANE W1 Spacious fully furnished 2 roomed luxury apartment. Lease 114 years. £45pw. 01/994 5969 Goldenberg 01 -491 4101

PIMLICO SW1 Good sized conversion (1st Recep) nr Pimlico Station. 2 beds, Bath. Recep. klt. 116 yrs ppp £99,000. Bensons 222 7020.

REGENTS PARK Superb newly refurb studio, 16ft x 15ft plus kit/bath. CH. High ceilings. 999yr. lse £57,000. 289 6663/4463(T)

CHISWICK W4. Spacious 2 bed 1st flr flat in sought after Bedford Pk. Lge recpn, lge dble & sgle bedrm, K&B, rear gdn. Long lse. £99,950. Property Services 01-995 4176

CONNAUGHT ST W2. Beautifully modernised 3 bedroom 1st floor flat. 2 bathrooms. Views over square. 134 46 years. £169,000. Tel 01 723 8971 or 379 7711 ext 42 (office hours).

RUSSELL SQUARE Interior designed studio flat. £54,000. Tel 01 833 8361.

GLOUCESTER PLACE W1. Fabulous 2 bed patio flat in Edwardian conv. Dble recep, 1 bath, 1 shower, sep WC. Secluded patio, long lse. £178,000. Howard Estates: 01 289 0104/6656.

PIMLICO SW1 Brand new on the market. Top quality development. Completion due June. 1, 2 & 3 Bed flats. CH. 1st class fully fitted Kitchens. Very long lses. Prices £100,000-£178,000. Bensons 222 7020.

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MAYFAIR W1: Close to Berkeley Square, bright second floor flat in pb block, featuring 3 beds, 2 baths, sauna, large recep, fitted kit, in need of some work. 46 years, £165,000 (W1 Office)
AMBIKA HOUSE, PORTLAND PLACE W1: Potentially magnificent apartment five mins from Oxford Circus. 38ft recep, 2 beds, 2 baths, lift, porter, underground parking, needing work. 76 years, £225,000 (W1 Office)
MONTAGU MANSIONS W1: Defying all superlatives! This second floor flat offers 2 double beds, 2 baths, 28ft reception, long lease, £230,000 Viewing Recommened (W1 Office)
PARKWAY, NW1: Located discreetly behind Camden Town principal shopping facilities, this superb fourth floor Georgian house is offered in immaculate order throughout with excellent recep, magnificent kitchen, breakfast room, 2 beds, bathroom, poss 2nd bath, studio room, sensational roof terrace. £225,000 FREEHOLD (W1 Office)
ST JOHN'S WOOD, NW8: Fitzroy are currently marketing a selection of superior family apartments, in prestigious blocks throughout the St John's Wood area. Prices from £325,000 (W1 Office)

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UNMODERNISED CHELSEA FREEHOLD
Royal Avenue, S.W.3. Requiring refurbishment. Would provide family home with 2/3 recep, 4 beds, 2 baths and west facing garden.
£465,000
READ CUNNINGHAM
01-730 0193

ADDISON AVENUE W11
An interesting and unusual house in this exclusive treelined avenue, close to the gates of Holland Park. Galleried reception room, separate dining room, well fitted kitchen, 3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and attractive roof terrace.
Freehold £420,000
Sole Agents
John Wilcox & Co
01-602 2352
Office open today 11am - 4pm.

HOLLAND PARK W11
A distinctive maisonette on the raised ground and first floors of an attractive period house having direct access to its own private garden to the rear. Impressive 25' reception room, 2 double bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom.
Leasehold £172,500
Sole Agents
John Wilcox & Co
01-602 2352
Office open today 11am - 4pm.

CLOSE KENSINGTON HIGH STREET
Large impeccably modernised purpose built flat. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, fully equipped kitchen. Car port.
146 YEAR LEASE.
£165,000.
TEL: 01-743 7822

MARLOES ROAD W8
Bright and spacious first floor 1 bed apartment in Victorian converted house. Close to Kensington Village, High Street/Earl's Court stations. 20ft rooms, bath, small kitchen. Recently redecorated. 986 year lease. £120,000 ono (inc Wilton carpets).
Tel: 01-373 4273.

NORTH KENSINGTON St. Lawerence Terrace. W10.
Excellent 4 storey Victorian house. 6 bedrooms, luxury kitchen/diner, terrace. Excellent location for transport/shops.
£275,000 ono.
Tel. 01 960 3377 (home)
01 969 8859 (work).

W. KEN W14
Attractive spacious ground floor purpose built maisonette in Queens Club Gardens. 2 double bed, large reception area, fully fitted kitchen. Long lease, caretaker, use of garden and tennis court. £90,000.
Tel: 01 381 0665.

WEST KENSINGTON W14 Sinclair Gardens
Spacious ground floor flat in popular location. 1 bedroom 14 x 24, living rm/kitchen 15 x 20, bathroom, storage space, high ceilings. Close Olympia tube and all amenities. 86 year ls. £62,250.
Tel Garry 01 603 3086 (H), 437 9347 (O).

WOODSFORD SQUARE HOLLAND PARK W14
Superb four storey town house, overlooking Square gdns. 5 beds, 2 baths, au pair room. Lovely west facing recep and dining. Integral gar. Pretty patio garden. 80 year lease. Early viewing essential.
£308,000
PHILIP ANDREWS
01-486 5991

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Urgently requires flats/houses to buy, SW1/3/7, W8.
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HAMPSTEAD & HIGHGATE

HIGHGATE BORDERS
3 storey 5 bed house in quiet area retaining all original Victorian features, with 40' x 20' reception area. Large sunny patio and mature 80' garden. GCH. One of the few remaining family houses in this area. £300,000. View today.
Tel: 01-340 1986 or 405 7094 (office).

HIGHGATE N6.
Unique Jacobean Style House
built 50 years ago. Large master bedrm suite (fitted/dressing rm), 5 further lge bedrms, family bathrm and shower room. Elegant dining room, 2 reception rooms, TV room. Log kitchen. Gas CH. Drive garage. Large garden backing onto Highgate Woods, ¼ acre. Freehold. £800,000. Tel owner
01 883 6984.

HIGHGATE VILLAGE N6,
large 2 double bedroomed flat, huge reception, high ceilings, luxury fitted kitchen and bathroom, cellar, 80 ft south facing garden + patio, rural views to rear, 95 year lease. £145,000.
Tel: 01-348 2997. Anytime.

UNMODERNISED
PRIME POSITION
HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE NW3
Period house with original features, 5 double beds, 2 baths, 3 receptions, large kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, guest cloakroom, patio. GCH.
GREAT INVESTMENT POTENTIAL
FREEHOLD. £295,000
View Today 2-4pm
Tel: 01-349 4867 Home
01-435 4875 Office

LYNDALE AVE NW2
4 double bedroomed, semi-detached house with 2 receptions, full gas ch, partial double glazing & 100ft rear garden. Newly decorated.
MUST BE SEEN
£195,000
Tel: 01-794 6154

WEST HAMPSTEAD Bright spacious 2 bedroom (double) split level 1st floor flat. Victorian working marble fireplace, G.C.H., fully fitted kitchen, carpets, long lease. £95,000. Tel 01 435 9658 eves and w/ends

W HAMPSTEAD Priory rd 1st floor 2 bed flat, lge recep. GCH, gdn. fitted kitchen, coal fire, excellent order. £87,000. 01-789 7599.

TOWNLEY HILL - GW16 Lovely 5 bedroom house £125,000. Tel 01 870 4850.

BLACKHEATH, SE3. Occupying an unrivalled position in the centre of the heath, a fine listed property within its own gardens of approximately ½ acre with separate coach house. The house is presently divided into 2 separate flats but would revert into one magnificent family house. Freehold. Offers in excess of £500,000. Apply Jackson-Stops & Staff Tel: 01-581 5402

BATTERSEA - 1-bed flat close to River. Attractive surroundings in courtyard setting. P/B. F/F kitchen, car parking space, good security. 120 year lease. £59,500. Tel: 01 350 2975

SW12 Stylish d/fronted 2 bed flat in elegant terrace. Sunny spacious rooms. 50 ft s/fl gdn. lge basement. Very close tube and common. £70,000. Call pref 01 673 8893 01 767 8828)

UPPER NORWOOD; Imac det house, select Rd. 3/4 beds, fitted kit, large lounge. CH. d/g. garage, south facing garden, lux carpets, exc order. £144,500 f/h. Tel 01 653 4449.

SALEHAM 3 bed modernised freehold house. 2 recep. Fitted kit. 70ft well stocked garden. Abutting Tooting Common. £92,500. Tel. 01 675 5250.

SEAVER ESTATE: SW17. One bedroom flat in large newly converted house, living room, bathroom, gas CH. £53,500. Tel 01 673 3883.

QUIET ST SW11 Vict terr hse. Good dec order. GCH 4 beds, 2 baths, dining rm, kitchen, dble recp, cellar, 30 ft gdn. £137,000. 01 228 6085

CRYSTAL PALACE - Lux 2 bdrm mais. garage & 2 pkg spaces. GCH. dbl/g. £61,000 Dave 01-942 7711 x2363 w/771 1757 h

W HAMPSTEAD Priory rd 1st floor 2 bed flat, lge recep. GCH, gdn. fitted kitchen, coal fire, excellent order. £87,000. 01-789 7599.

BRIXTON HILL Views to Highgate woods. 3 mins from tube. High quality Victorian purpose built flat. 3 bed. 2 recept. Requires internal upgrading. 99 year lease, £87,500. Telephone 01 444 1041.

BARGAIN 2 bed P/B flat. Low outgoings. Hampstead borders. GCH. £55,000. 01 455 4367.

CRANLEIGH GARDENS SW19 Superb 2nd flt. 2 bed. 2 recpt with Balc o'looking sq. 2 dble beds, kit. bath. GCH, 98 yrs, £180,000 HOLMANS 370 6781

CLEEVEMEDE RD W14 Extremely attract 2 dbl bed flat o/look Queens Club. Kit. bath. recept. Mod interior. CH. Nr 2 Tube stns. £82,000. 01-381 2633.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW3 Immac 2 bed. 2 bath flat close to V.High standard co top flr of p/b block. mins of Harrods. £235,000 Call Aspern 01 586 2215.

BEAUFORT GDNS, SW3. ½ min Harrods. 1st dss 2 beds. 2 baths. 98 yrs lse. £145,000. 01-431 1342 (T)

COLLINGHAM PLACE, SW5. Stunning 2 bed, 25' reception. £145,000. 01-431 1342 (T)

FREEMOLD MANS, SW3. 2/3rd fr 2/3 beds. 2 baths, lge recep. £150,000. 01-431 1342 (T)

KENSINGTON Flat 1st avaiable. Price £80,000 to £280,000. Tel: 01-603 1633 (T)

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

COACH HOUSE SW4 Unusual & delightful detached house. 2 beds, lge recept. rm, kitchen, bathroom, super garden, mins from tube. £69,950 F/H

THE OVAL SW9 Unmodernised spacious Victorian p/b flat in need of restoration & redecoration only. recept rm, dining rm, kitchen, 2 beds, bathroom, gardens, walking distance to tube, £62,750 L/H

SW2 Charming 4 bed Victorian terrace house, restored & modernised. 2 recept rms, kitchen, dining rm, bathroom, cellar, garden, gas CH. £98,000 F/H

GARDEN FLAT SW4 Charming converted flat in superb Victorian house. 2 beds, recept rm, dining rm, kitchen, bathroom, patio, garden, gas CH, quiet location, mins from tube, £68,000 L/H

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THURLEIGH ROAD WANDSWORTH COMMON
Beautiful presented and fully renovated 6 bedroom Victorian family house with many original features and light spacious accommodation. West planner fully fitted kitchen adjoins dining room and family room. Separate drawing room GF cloakroom/utility. Splendid 85ft. secluded garden with some exotic shrubs and a silar tree. New roof. Easy walk to Clapham South tube or Wandsworth Common station. 100 yrds from the Common (Quiet). Excellent local shops and highly acclaimed restaurants. Just on the market. £269,500 freehold. View by appointment through Sole Agents.
228 7474
140 NORTHCOTE ROAD SW11

BLACKHEATH:
Det house. ½ acre plot, south aspect, favoured Cator est, 5 beds, 2 baths, superb oak panelled dining room, d/room, lux fitted kit, utility, dble garage, sauna, h/ swimming pool, greenhouse, outbuildings, excellent condition. £297,000.
Tel 01 852 6795 or 01 318 1792.

BETWEEN THE COMMONS: Outstanding freehold family house within 5 minutes walk from Clapham South. Interesting conversion 1870 'Chelsea Style' terraced house. Refurbished to exceptional standard, maximising light and space. Master bedroom en suite bathroom, study/ 5th bedroom, 3 further double bedrooms, 2nd bathroom, drawing room, dining room/ hall, utility room/ W.C. kitchen/ breakfast room opening onto secluded south facing patio garden. £169,950. Tel: 01-673 1325

NORTH OF CLAPHAM COMMON. Victorian terrace 4 bedrm, 1 bath, 1 shower, dble reception room with original fireplaces & cornices, kitchen with custom made fitments excluding appliances. Patio garden with flowers boarders. Recently rewired. Freehold. £150,000. Quick sale. 01 228 4702

WANDSWORTH - 100 x 80ft garden. 6 bedroom semi detached house in Wandle Road with 2 recpns, modern bathroom, and off street parking. Semi modernised with planning permission and plans to make a stunning house. Price £205,000. Tel: 01-672 2267 eves.

STREATHAM Det hse semi detached property. 4 beds, 2 baths, 1 shower rm. 2 recpns. F/F kit/breakfast rm. utility. lge gdn, gge. Ex order. Offers around £183,000 incl curtains /cpts. 01 769 1443 W/E/Eves.

STREATHAM VALE 3 bed house. GCH, dble glazed, small garden. Walking distance Norbury/ Streatham Common BR. 10 mins Victoria. 5 mins Croydon. £68,950. Quick sale. 01 764 7531 Eves/Weekends.

STREATHAM HILL. Very large detached double fronted Victorian house. All original features, 3 beautiful receptions, kitchen/diner. 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, large cellar & 100ft gdn. £255,000. 01 671 2539.

HILLYFIELDS, SE13 Lovely Victorian s/d house in improving area. Luxury period accomodation. 4 beds, bath , drawing room. din. room, kitchen, gas CH, workshop, super garden. £124,000. Freehold. Dyer Son & Creasy 01 852 9622.

WEST PUTNEY Superb west facing gdn flt. 1/2 beds. lge recept. kit/break. cellar. £71,500 L/H. Hugh Henry 789 7077

SE27 Det house. 3 bed. 2 recep. hse kit. CCH, garage. £97,000. Tel: 01 670 8246.

BUNGALOW HAMPTON COURT.
Heathrow 20 mins. Gatwick, via M25 25 mins. Architect designed Premier residential road. East Molesey. Small garden front and rear, garage space. Large sunny lounge/dining room, double bedroom. Foyer can take 2. Kitchen bathroom with shower. Separate w/c. Gas CH, wide interior doors and wheelchair. Immaculate condition. 3/4 acre to excellent school, approaching motorways and 90 to Waterloo and 10 mins. to Kingston for major shopping facilities. Very attractive. Freehold or unfurnished. Available immediately.
£125,000
Tel: 01-979 8978

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Rare opportunity to acquire detached house in one of the most desirable parts of Teddington close to river with access and mooring 4 double bedrooms, 2 baths, 1/2/3rd kitchen, oak panelled dining rm. Pretty gdn generous.
Asking price £265,000
with fitted carpets and curtains incl.
Tel: 01-977 4892 (eves)/ 01-892 7908 (day)

SW8 LUXURY 2 bedrm flat, newly converted. Gas CH. Fitted cupboards throughout. Offers invited £80,500. Viewing Sunday onwards 01 627 8246 e.v.e.

SW8 2 bed Victorian house, close tube. Completely modernised, retaining original fireplaces. Luxury bathroom. £85,000 ono Tel 01 737 5060

BATTERSEA VILLAGE. New 4 bed town house, garage, studio, 60ft garden. £180,000. 01-352 2481 or 350 2556 eves.

CLAPHAM Recent conv 2 bed gdn flat, orig features. GCH, ex dec order, nr tube. £65,000 ono. Tel. 737 4481 eves.

SW17 Superbly modernised 7 bedroom, 3 reception house. £285,000. Tel 01 672 9644

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Adjacent to Admiral Nelson's 12th Century church 4 bedroomed detached, grounds of ¼ of an acre, 2 receps, 2 bathrooms, dble. garage £315,000. F/H.
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RICHMOND & KINGSTON

KINGSTON
3 year old, unique high spec 3 bed town house. 5 mins to station, Richmond Park and River. Featuring luxury bathroom, fully fitted kitchen, large lounge, garden room/4th bedroom, cloakroom /utility. Beautiful low maintenance. Suntrap garden, double carport.
£168,000.
Ring Mr. Nichols. 01 541 1777 (days). 01 546 0858 (eves).

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Beautifully restored Victorian semi detached with garden Flat, G/C/H, new electrics, new plumbing. House: 3 floors, 2 recep, 5 bed, 2 bath (1 Ensuite), Kit/conservatory. Flat: 1 recep, 2 Bed, Bath, Ke/diner. Access Waterloo M3 M4 M25, Heathrow. Offers £299,000 freehold.
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RICHMOND PARK
Luxurious detached house. Features include 30 x 25 marble-floored lounge, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a floodlight swimming pool.
£600,000 FREEHOLD
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Winkworth

RICHMOND - Edwardian terraced freehold house. Va decorative order. 3 double bed. bath/ WC. hall. 2 receps. fitted kit/ b'fast room, conservatory. 36' garden. Original features. GCH. £115,000 Tel: 01 876 6694.

WHITTON Cosy recently modernised 19th century cottage 2 beds, sitting room, original brick fireplace. Fully fitted kitchen plus utils. bathroom, full Gas C/H, patio garden. £57,000. 01 898 2985

NB BRIDGE large penthouse flat. 2 beds, store room, garden. quick sale. £76,000 Tel 01 891 2807 24 hours.

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2 bedroom apartment in tree lined St. Johns Wood with garage, Gas CH, closets all rooms, complete kitchen, carpets, curtains.
£125,000 ono.
Tel. 01-624 3296
Saturdays, Sundays, evenings.
No agents.

ROLAND GARDENS SW7. spacious light unmodernised 2nd floor flat in well maintained house. Hall, reception room 18'3" x 13'6", bedroom, kitchen room, kitchen lease 90 years. £129,500. Tel: 01 373 3983.

SHEPHERDS BUSH Pretty 2 bed ground floor flat in quiet tree lined st. Investment potential. Modernised and ready to move in Long lease, offers around £74,000. Tel 0473 39361 or Monday 01 749 6392.

CAMDEN TOWN Cressida, top floor 2 bed flat in sought-after new block. CH. DG. Private forecourt & garage. Low outgoings. £95,500. 998 years 01 852 4655. W/E & eves.

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PRIMROSE HILL. only two remain of our new comfy, only moments from green acres of the Hill. 3 bed mais with glass domed recep. study, fld kit. 2 baths & shwr. Gdn. £225,000. 1 bed penthse with roof terrace & magnificent views over London. £89,950. 99 yr lses. Prop Dept Bruce - 01-624-0066.

FIRST B D (Sun 0727 34651)

CHISWICK W4: Very attractively modernised 3 bed house. 2 recep, fitted kit. bathroom, cloak. conservatory. Ingle spr. close. conservatory. Ingle spr. £5m garden. CH. nr Turnham Green tube/ shops. Freehold £142,500. Tyser Greenwood & Co. Trh. 01-994 7022

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Recommended two and three bedroom unfurnished maisonettes in quiet elegant period bldgs. Rents from £8,000 p.a. exc rates.
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9 Harley Street, W.1.
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PIMLICO
Larger than usual 1 bedroom flat, excellent decorative order. 5 minutes walk from Tube. Quiet location. Bed, recep, kit/diner, bathroom. 115 years £110,000.
Winkworth 828 1786.

PIMLICO
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£120,000
with carpets and curtains incl.
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RAVENSCOURT PARK W6 Luxury appointed large Mansion flat. 1/4. 2/3 dble beds. 2/1 recaps, hall, lge bath/ kitchen. all fully fitted throughout. Immaculate. £126,000 Ap. Immediate quick sale, inc *ltd.* Furniture available by neg. Suit diplomats/ people with style. Tel: 01-741 2347 (Days) or (0990) 20603 (Eves)

ST JOHNS WOOD. The Terraces. Grad flr flat in prestige block with 24 hr portarage & security. Recept hall, susex closet, bright/ dble recept rm with balcony, 3 beds each with en suite bath, lge well fitted kitch, underground garaging. 993 yr lse. £480,000. Sole Agents John Squire & Co (08966) 77777

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BARBICAN EC2 Lge 1st flr studio flat in clean order. 119 yr lse. £60,000 for quick sale. Frank Harris & Co 387 0077

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CHISWICK W4 Undoubtedly one of the most det period residences in the area. Sympathetically modernised to the highest standard offering recep room, dining room, study, hand built kit/break rm, conservatory, 5 beds, 3 baths (1 en suite), cloak rm, cellars, full gas CH Off street parking. 60' west facing gdns. A unique opportunity. £550,000. View today Whitman Porter 994 1000.

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Ref: Bks.

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£135,000
Tel: 01-286 2052

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HOWARD ESTATES 01-289 0104 /6555 Maida Vale W9
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From £115,000-£215,000

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Near Hyde Park.
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£225,000.
Tel. 01 486 8482
after office hours.
No agents.

LITTLE VENICE - Cosy Period, Slightly Lived, Second Floor flat. 2 beds. (One 22' long). Dining/Reception 22'x15'. Bathroom. Kitchen. Cloakroom. Overlooking Clifton Nurseries. 50 yards Tube. 100 yards Canal. £162,500. Tel: 01-286 0468. No agents.

BARGAIN IN NW2. 1-bed. 2nd floor flat in new conversion with south-facing lounge. Fitted kitchen, gas ch., new bathroom suite (separate w.c.) & carpets throughout. 125 year lease. £57,950. Tel: 01 459 8643

BASSETT ROAD: Immac 1 bed flat in prestigious W10 location, large recep. galleried 2nd bed area, FF kitchen, bathroom, sep WC. GCH. Long lease. £68,000. Tel: 01-960 3377 (H) 01-437 8179 (O)/ 0836 513844 (Car)

LIME GROVE - W12. Spacious new flat in Edwardian semi with GFCH. Communal garden. Flat cats, pets okay. 2 dble bed. Lge Lounge/dining rm. Kit. bath. Long lease. £61,750. Tel: 01-749 0482 eves & w/ends.

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CHELSEA SW3: Unusual 3 year old Freehold house in excellent modern condition. 2 beds, garaging/ room, patio garden. £195,000. SOLE AGENTS.
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CHELSEA Newly converted mais in lower half of a large period house. 3 beds. 2 baths. 2 receps. Patio. Cpts/curts. Many original features. CH. for quick sale £175,000 F.ltd. 01 437 5080.

FERNSHAW ROAD SW10 Lovely 3 bed maisonette on 1st 2nd floors with large recept, small roof terrace & kitchen. 96 year lease. £175,000 inc carpets Blechasate 351 7767

KENSINGTON W8 Superb 2 bed raised ground floor flat in privacy and occupies afternoon sun. Modern kitchen, bath, carpeted ceilings and elegant frontage. Lease 97 years. £125,000. No agents. Tel 01-375 8498 .

HOLLAND PARK MEWS Superbly decorated and modernised mews house, opposite Holland Park. 3 beds. 2 baths, large living room, dining room, fully fitted kitchen, large garage. Excellent condition. Owners must sell immediately. £279,000 Freehold. 221 3090.

BELGRAVIA Magnificent newly refurbished family house. 40' living room, large dining room, superb kitchen/breakfast room with en suite facilities, 5 beds, 3 baths, large roof terrace. Owners must sell £650,000. Offers invited. 221 7882.

LONDON SW3 Old Church St. Newly modernised 4th floor 1 bed flat. Sep. recep., kitchen & bathroom. Fully carpeted, purpose built block. Lease 77yrs. £120,000. Tel: Day 01 286 6800 eve 01 381 2961.(T).

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EARLS CT SQ SW5 Superb 2nd flr flt. 1 bed recept with Balc o'looking sq. 2 dble beds, kit. bath. GCH, 98 yrs, £180,000. HOLMANS 370 6781

CLEEVEMEDE RD W14 Extremely attract 2 dbl bed flat o/look Queens Club. Kit. bath. recept. Mod interior. CH. Nr 2 Tube stns. £82,000. 01-381 2633.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW3 Immac 2 bed. 2 bath flat close to V.High standard co top flr of p/b block. mins of Harrods. £235,000 Call Aspern 01 586 2215.

BEAUFORT GDNS, SW3. ½ min Harrods. 1st dss 2 beds. 2 baths. 98 yrs lse. £145,000. 01-431 1342 (T)

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Fabulous arch, granny annexe/gym/recreation rm. hall, fullit kit/b'fastrm, store. 3 recep. 5 beds. 2 baths, gallery, sun store. GCH. £208,500, ono.
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(0734) 861071.
Office hours, Mon-Fri.

COOKHAM Outstanding property with spacious, well maintained flexible accom. 3 recepts, lux kit/b'fast, utility, ctk. 3 beds. 2 baths (1 ensuite). Also 3 bed guest wing. Fine views. Dble gge. Gas CH. Hrd swim pool, stable blk & havhsrn. Approx 2.3 acres gdns & paddock. Offers in region of £500,000 F/H. Prudential Property Services (06268) 26825 or Preside & Country Homes (07831 868178

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BUDE. A mod. det. House with gas C/h, artex ceilings & quality joinery, 3 bedrms., bathrm., lounge, rec. din. rm., well fitted breakfast- kit. with good level cloister Garage & tidy gdns. + additional building plot with P. P. for dwelling. All main services. PRICE £57,500.
BUDE. In prime posn. adjacent to Golf Course, 2 mins from Supermarket & P.O., a subst. and tast prop. comprising 2x2 bedrm. hse. Flats, a 1 bedrm. Flat with gas C/h & a dble. garage with planning for laundry. Ed. lettings potential, permanent or seasonal. PRICE £67,500.

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SOMERSET & AVON

CREWKERNE prestigious Grade II listed 1740 4 bedroomed stone built house, in conservation area, with wine cellars, walled garden etc, overlooking countryside, direct rail to London. £75,000. Tel: 0460 76450.

Knight Frank & Rutley

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Lansdown
A VERY WELL REFURBISHED COACH HOUSE IN A QUIET SOUTHERLY POSITION
2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Gas central heating. Double garage. Mature private garden.
ABOUT ¼ ACRE adjoining to may be available under lease.
Offers invited
Joint Agents: Chelsea, Bath. Tel. (0225) 66611
Knight Frank & Rutley
Cirencester, Tel. (0285) 68771
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SCOTLAND

THE CLIFFE, KYLEAKIN, SKYE.
Panoramic views from Cookers to Kintail. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, cloakroom with WC and WHF. Large sun-room and sitting room, kitchen/dining rm. GCH, DGL. 1 large work-shop, garage, fuel store. Walled garden.
£80,000.
Tel: 0599 4464.

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Of two 17th Century cottages with SW views of farmland to horizon and sunset. 1 acre garden. Beam. Situated on Common with woodland walks. End of private road, ½ mile Cobham. Original oak beams, stripped pine doors, two large inglenooks, oil heating, interior designer decorated. Provides 4 bedrms, 3 with en suite facilities & jacuzzi, 23' sitting rm, study, 19' dining rm, kitchen/family rm, utility. Large sun trap conservatory with Provencal tile floor, enormous patio & B-B-Q. M25 5 mins, M3/Gatwick 30 mins.
£395,000
Tel: 0932 63333

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RAGSHOT: Lux gnd flr appt in old country house, 2½ acres of comm gnds. 2 mins M3/M25, 2 dble beds, lge living/dining, kit/brkf, bath, WC, GCH, timac. £99,950. Tel 0276 75626.

NEAR OUTWOOD Charming semi detached cottage between Redhill & Godstone. Close to station. 2 beds, 2 recaps, kit, modern bath, GCH, Dble garage. £78,950. 0737 73474.

WOLDINGHAM Spacious modern family house. With panoramic views. In delightful village. Only ½ hr Rail from London. £257,500. Tel:0883 85 3562.

PURLEY Architect designed detached house, ¼ acre. Glorious SW views. 5 beds, 2 baths (1 en suite), open plan 3/5 receptions (possible granny flat), kitchen, utility, gas CH, garage, mature garden, terrace. 5M to London 20 mins. Easy access M23 (Gatwick) & M25 (Heathrow). £185,000 Freehold. Tel 01 660 7091.

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£146,500 ono.
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Stc manor, bed, bath, lot, lounge, dining.
GCH, dble glazed, dble gge & carport. £395,000 FH.
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SUSSEX

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0860 385323

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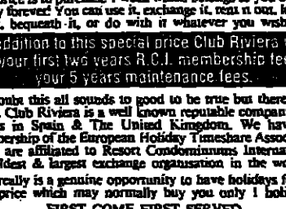
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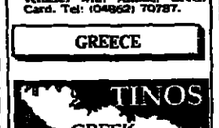
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Associate Director (35ish, public school) of City based British arm of international financial empire needs Sec/PA (25ish, ditto) with some investment banking b.g. New position. Only 30% SH/typing, but WP aid 100/60-65 essential. Rest is liaising with markets, home and overseas, arranging meetings, assimilating info. Vital you're intelligent, fast-moving, well dressed, well spoken. Many benefits. Ring:

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A full PA role working with the MD of this international company where you will be given the opportunity and training necessary to handle your own marketing assignments. You need to be numerate, able to handle your own correspondence and also look after the hectic day to day running of your boss's diary. WP knowledge essential, will train on IBM computer. Superb prospects and excellent perks. 01 486 7987

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Join a team where your efforts and skills will be highly rewarded and career opportunities abound. You will need speeds of 100/60, proficient WP skills and 2 years' Director level secretarial experience in London. Please telephone for an appointment or fact sheet: 01-434 4512.

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Based on the trading floor with the syndications and capital markets teams, you will handle a little typing and masses of admin and international calls. Energy and a zest for work a must as the hours can be long but very rewarding. Typing 60 wpm and WP experience needed. Age 20+

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Two Consultants needed for rapidly expanding WC2 Recruitment Specialists. Top Salary plus commission.

Speak to Margaret or Jill on
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EXP PA/ADMIN
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If you are 21-26 and the most outgoing and well presented candidate we interview you will have the opportunity to be in charge of every aspect of organising major seminars and courses throughout the UK. Your enthusiasms commitment and eye for detail will be well rewarded working in a busy atmosphere with a small and friendly team. Hotel or Travel background useful. Please ring:

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London SW1H 9BP

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£9,866 to £11,350 p.a. inc.

The City University Business School, located in the Barbican Arts Centre in the City of London, seeks applications from suitably experienced persons for the post of Office Manager for the Department of Business Studies.

You should have considerable office experience, preferably at a supervisory level, and the ability to communicate effectively with staff at all levels and have a positive and methodical approach to work.

Benefits include generous season ticket loan scheme, generous holiday entitlement, and excellent sports and recreational facilities.

If you are interested please telephone our 24 hour answerphone service on 01 250 1107, or write to Ms Jane Cameron, Personnel Recruitment Assistant, The City University, Northampton Square, London, EC1V 0HB.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 1st April 1987.

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Decorator to handle own clients plus management of shop. Previous experience essential. Salary/-commission to be discussed.

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(Due to the usual type deadlines, closing date for your application is 25th March 1987)

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If you are 21-26 and the most outgoing and well presented candidate we interview you will have the opportunity to be in charge of every aspect of organising major seminars and courses throughout the UK. Your enthusiasms commitment and eye for detail will be well rewarded working in a busy atmosphere with a small and friendly team. Hotel or Travel background useful. Please ring:

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We are looking for an efficient secretary to work for our Business Affairs Executive.

Excellent skills (80/60) and meticulous attention to detail are essential, as is a willingness to use a comprehensive computer system.

Salary negotiable.

Please send your cv to Mike Wooller, Granada International Productions, 36 Golden Square, London, W1R 4AH.

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Sports Sponsorship and Event Management Company
Based in WC2 require:

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Join this very successful fashion publishing house as secretary to a director. They offer a busy, varied and involving role to a fashion conscious person looking for their next step up. Good prospects envisaged, possibly to develop into a PR function. Beautiful offices and generous discounts. 100/60 skills needed.

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A leading 5 star hotel seeks a well organised secretary to their general manager. A good telephone manner is essential in order to liaise with VIP's. You'll enjoy a full PA role in your own super smart, brand new office. Excellent benefits include free meals, dress allowance and dry cleaning discounts. 80/60 skills needed.

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430 1551/2653

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PA/SECRETARY

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Telephone: 01 392 1488
(No Agencies)

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This well known firm of property consultants requires a secretary/administrator to join their fast moving and highly successful office based in SW6.

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An outgoing personality would suit the company as well as a calm and capable manner. If you are looking for a rewarding and challenging career move please contact our West End Office.

Age: 20-24. Skills: 80/50 + WP

West End Office
629 9686
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SECRETARY TO SENIOR PARTNER City Stockbrokers
c£13,000

Good S/H and Typing required for all Secretarial duties and New Issues involvement 20-early 30's.

Brilliant benefits include; xmas and summer bonus, interest free ST loan, cheap medical, pension and mortgage schemes.

Ring or send CV to Jacqui

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ITALIAN/ENG PA/SEC
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for the British college of osteopathic medicine (administrative) London SW6. The person appointed will have direct responsibility for running the College examinations as validated centres within the United Kingdom. Applications invited from well-educated men and women able to communicate well, both orally and in writing, orderly minds and outgoing personalities. Good typing skills (own work). WP experience desireable. Willingness to spend c.20 nights pa away from home, occasional Saturday salary excluding special allowance £10,000 + pa.

Write Managing Director,
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100 Baker Street, London W1.
Tel: 01-935 8884

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£7874 – £8671

Fast, efficient secretary with accurate shorthand and typing urgently needed for Exhibitions and Public Relations Office. You must be organised with an excellent telephone manner and the ability to work under pressure.

If you have the right skills and a bright personality telephone 01-584 5020 for an application form, returnable by 30th March 1987, to the Deputy Registrar, Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2EU.

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N.W. London
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Two years experience, 60/45wpm. Driver preferred. Age 20-25. Christine Mitchell 01 439 8031.

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MATURE PERSON 28-40
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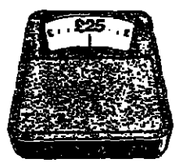
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We are now looking for an Assistant/Secretary, to assist the Personnel Officer in providing a personnel service to management and members of staff.

This would be an ideal post for someone with several years' secretarial experience, possibly in a personnel environment, looking for a career move. It may hold particular appeal for a person aged 20-30, who is studying for IPM Stage I.

Candidates should be educated to 'A' level standard, possess excellent shorthand/typing skills of 90/55 w.p.m., and have a pleasant and efficient telephone manner. The ability to use initiative together with excellent interpersonal skills to communicate at all levels is essential.

An attractive salary and the usual company benefits will be offered.

Please write, enclosing c.v. to the:-
Personnel Officer,
Independent Television Companies Association Ltd.,
Knighton House,
56 Mortimer Street,
London, W1N 8AN.

Closing date for applications, 27th March 1987.

We are an equal opportunities employer, and all applications are welcome regardless of sex, race or marital status.

itca Independent Television Companies Association

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Move up with a leading Estate Agency chain

c£10,500 + benefits EC4

Prudential Property Services, an exciting and rapidly growing estate agency group, is looking for a capable and experienced Secretary to provide full and efficient support to the Financial Services Director and his team.

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If you're a secretary seeking real responsibility and the opportunity to enter the challenging world of high finance within a computer environment this could be what you've been looking for.

Reporting directly to the Partner in charge of the National Tax Computer Department you and your assistant will provide a full secretarial service, both to the Partner and the department's technical staff. Your varied duties will include audio and copy typing (minimum 60wpm but no shorthand required), dealing with expense claims and simple budget control, keeping an up-to-date diary and arranging meetings and small seminars. A knowledge of word processing is necessary as you will be using the IBM DW3, and will be required to fully involve yourself with the computer systems used by technical staff.

You must be discreet, as you will be dealing with sensitive and confidential material, and be self-motivated, confident and able to liaise with staff at high levels. Educated to at least 'O' level standard (Maths and English essential) you will possess a flexible attitude to working hours.

In return we offer many benefits including a subsidised canteen, four weeks holiday, generous season ticket loan and a range of sports and social activities.

Please write including a full c.v. and day-time telephone number to:
Julia Riley,
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to £12,500
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You will be responsible for running the office, organising mailshots and updating the database as well as being PA to the energetic young MD of a City venture consultant. Audio + WP.

£12,000 + parking
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You have a strong personality, ideally speak Italian and can set up an office from scratch. As 'right hand' to the MD of a company in Surrey Docks, you will follow up on sales leads and run the office. Shorthand useful.

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We have more vacancies available in banking with German. Please ring us.

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West End Consultancy up to £11,000

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You must be able to work under pressure and sufficiently extrovert to relate to an informal style within a closely knit group of 10 people.

We produce a large volume of audio typing but the essence of the job is consultant support, which can be productive and also satisfying.

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Interested in advertising? Come in at Director level with this mega-dynamic W1 Agency. Young, dedicated and very creative, they have rocketed to prominence on the back of innovative new ideas and hugely successful TV campaigns. Strength of character, career commitment and the ability to handle pressure are your key assets in this high profile role. Great people. Fantastic offices. Brilliant job. And it could be yours! Rusty shorthand and good typing? Call now on 01-409 1232.

THE WORK SHOP RECRUITMENT COMPANY THE WORK SHOP RECRUITMENT COMPANY

REALISE YOUR POTENTIAL

Looking to move on and up? If so, the M.D. of a newly established firm of fund managers in EC2 is concentrating on expanding the business, and urgently needs a bright young secretary/assistant to whom he can delegate - as much as you can handle. Initially duties will include marketing, telephone work, bookkeeping, the general smooth running of the office as well as secretarial/P.A. duties for the M.D. You should have good secretarial skills, be in your early 20s with both the desire and the ability to work under pressure. Salary £10,000 + bonus. If you are keen for your next move to offer you good potential then please telephone 588 3535.

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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TRANSFORM YOUR JOB INTO A CAREER!

To £10k, plus commmission, plus company car

METROSEC, Part of the METRO GROUP of companies require several experienced interviewers/recruitment consultants.

We are looking for people who can make things happen, who have at least six months plus experience in a secretarial recruitment agency. Initially, the appointment will be based in South East London with the possibility of relocating at a later date, to Oxford Street, High Holborn or Brighton.

Management positions will be available in the latter half of the year, which means that you would have the opportunity to further your career as a manager. There is also scope to work for our Computer Consultancy.

For further information telephone Jo Hawksby today on
01-304 3821 day
01-455 2671 evening
or send your updated curriculum vitae to:

MetroSec Recruitment Consultants
METROSEC Ltd
COMPUTER HOUSE
52-54 BELLEGROVE ROAD
WELLING, KENT
DA16 3BR

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

The MSD Foundation, a medical charity, produces educational material and runs courses for doctors.

We seek a qualified, experienced, flexible administrative secretary who can also do bookkeeping to be the lynchpin in our busy team of six staff. You will provide day-to-day secretarial support for the Foundation's Director, keeping an up-to-date diary of commitments and events, arranging meetings and travel, typing his letters, academic reports and other documents on a word processor and dealing with outside contacts at a senior level to co-ordinate his activities with those of the Foundation's staff. You will also work closely with the Foundation's Administrator on the day-to-day bookkeeping and preparation of financial summaries.

You should possess excellent audio typing skills, have the ability to spell, to be legible and accurate with figurework as well as be a non-smoker. Minimum qualifications:- O Level English, O Level Mathematics and accurate audio typing.

We offer a salary between £8,000 and £9,000 per annum plus luncheon vouchers and a private health insurance for a 35-hour week with 20 days annual leave. Training on a Philips 5020 word processor and other equipment will be provided.

Apply in writing by sending your CV to:-
The Administrator, The MSD Foundation,
Tavistock House, Tavistock Square,
London WC1H 9LG.

Advertising Extravaganza

* * *

This Company only employs the best . . . this is an outstanding chance to join the West Ends smartest Company in the advertising set. Apart from being involved in Advertising items such as champagne, cars and perfume, the Company is also involved in PR and filming — all of which are spread out before you for future dazzling opportunities. The people are young, fun and extremely nice. If you are in your twenties, have reasonable secretarial skills (80/50) and above all a magnetic personality, this could be a sensational opportunity for you. Salary £9,500+. Please call 01-493 5787.

GORDON·YATES
Recruitment Consultants

PR Agency
£10-£10,500

This major PR agency (in the West End) needs a PA to support two Account Directors who work on new business pitches and corporate P.R. accounts. In addition to putting your shorthand and typing skills to good use, you will provide admin. support on each account. Skills: 90/60. Age 24-30.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET, W1 01-629 7282

Design
c.£12,000

The world of design is dynamic and demanding. The Chief Exec. needs a right hand to give full secretarial and admin. support. Ample responsibility and involvement for the P.A. who can rise to this challenge. Skills: typing and shorthand with WP experience. Age: late 20's. Friendly, energetic team.

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS
7 PRINCES STREET, W1 01-629 7282

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS — ADMINISTRATION
Are you that vital linch-pin?
to £14,000 + profit share

With a sense of humour and advertising experience you will need all your organising abilities to ensure the smooth running of this young and friendly team based near St. Paul's.

Cheerful and discreet, you will be involved in account handling, client entertainment, the personnel function, some shorthand and typing for the partners and office administration.

And, almost as important, in your mid to late 20's you will appreciate the absolute involvement that this exciting opportunity offers.

For this and other senior administrative positions, please telephone Charlotte Smith on 01-831 1603 or send your c.v. to her at 39 Floral Street, London WC2E 9DG.

SENSE
EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

Bang in the heart of Knightsbridge, in fashionable Beauchamp Place, we have been in the vanguard of specialist recruitment agencies since early 1982. Small, friendly and highly professional, we offer a wide variety of services from general office to executive recruitment in most fields. If you have some agency experience why not give Susan Beck a call in strictest confidence for more details. Salary £neg + commission.

Susan Beck RECRUITMENT 01-584 6242

PUBLIC RELATIONS
No Shorthand to £11,000

The young busy M.D. of this rapidly growing P.R. Co. based in Paddington needs a fun but calm P.A. Handle press releases, co-ordinate his hectic schedule and deal with his correspondence. You will need to be full of initiative, teamy and flexible to enjoy this friendly atmosphere. Age 22+. Skill 50 typ/WP exp. Please telephone:

437 6032

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Required for beautiful home in Chelsea. Successful applicant must be a good cook, car driver and be able to get things done efficiently and without fuss. This is a daytime appointment, car provided. Daily help kept, every facility, top salary for this important appointment. Secretarial skills an advantage but not essential.

Please write with full details to BOX D69.
or telephone 01 352 6709 between 9 am and 12 noon.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK FOR A YOUNG FAST MOVING SPORTS MANAGEMENT COMPANY.

If so, IMG, the Mark McCormack Organisation based at riverside offices in Kew are looking for a Secretary to start in the middle of April in their tennis division. You will need good shorthand and typing and be bilingual in French.

If you are interested in finding out more please call or send a C.V. to;

Tricia Smith, The Pier House,
Strand on the Green, Chiswick W4 3NN
01-994 1444

EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITY
ASSISTANT TO THE PERSONNEL MANAGER

A mature, well-educated and experienced secretary with shorthand/typing and good administrative skills is required to train as deputy to the Personnel Manager, assisting in all aspects of the Personnel function.

The work is varied and interesting but highly pressurized. Prospects of development are extremely good in our expanding company. Age 25-45.

Write with C.V. and full salary details to:- Mrs V. Martyn, MIPM, MBIM, Personnel Manager, Chinacraft Group of Companies, 130 Barlby Road, London, W10 6BW.

CHESTERTONS PRUDENTIAL

SECRETARY/TRAINEE NEGOTIATOR

Are you bored with just being a Secretary?
Do you want a challenge?

We are looking for bright enthusiastic people who would like to grow with us in our expanding Letting Department in Battersea. You will be involved in the day to day running of the Department, dealing with applicants and clients, showing properties and typing/administration. Car driver essential.

The job will be demanding and rewarding.
Please Please write with full CV to:
Elizabeth Spencely
172A Lavender Hill
London SW11 5TG

NEW DEVELOPMENT!

New position, good for up to £11,500. Sec/PA to Director holding purse strings of rapidly expanding City & Town Centre property developers. New building in est EC4, swish offices, all very high tech. Set up systems, run them, keep diary (clear handwriting) etc. 100 SH, good typing, much phoning. Takes numeracy, intelligence, discretion and an enquiring mind. 25+. Non smoker preferred. Ring:

Mary Overton

MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT LIMITED
35 PICCADILLY LONDON W1V 9PB
01-734 7282

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

GREAT EXPECTATIONS!

PA/SECRETARY to £11,500.
A Senior position with a well known International company working for a Main Board Director. Smart and confident, you must have good Secretarial and organizational skills. An interest in Marketing and an extrovert character will enable you to hold the fort in the Director's absence and deal efficiently with plenty of client contact. Ref: (A1) 559/17004.

PARTNERS SECRETARY to £11,200.
Good Shorthand, Audio and WP skills will be useful in arranging the Partner's business life. Lots of client contact for someone with a good work history. Ref: (A) 562/10023.

GROUP SECRETARY to £10,500.
A full secretarial role to include extensive client liaison, travel and entertainment arrangements. WP experience is preferred, to provide a full Secretarial and Administrative service to the group. Ref: (B1) 551/17003.

SECRETARY £9,000.
Oil company needs a capable and organised Secretary who has PC and WP experience. Plenty of benefits including BUPA. Ref: (A) 552/16002.

TEMPS! TEMPS! TEMPS!

If your expectations are high... and your Secretarial skills rather above average... We are your type of agency... We have rewarding temporary jobs with a selection of prestigious companies for experienced office staff... Call in and meet the professional people who care...

19/23 Oxford St, W1 (Tot'ham Crt. Rd Stn.)	437 9030.
185 Victoria St, SW1 (BR Victoria Stn)	828 3845.
131/133 Cannon St, EC4 (BR Cannon or Bank Stn)	626 8315.
22 Warmwood St, EC2 (BR Liverpool St. Stn.)	638 3846.

Recruitment Consultants
Challoners

RECEPTIONIST

As one of the world's largest international firm of Management Consultants specialising in Executive Search, with smart offices in Mayfair, we now have a vacancy for an experienced Receptionist.

You will be our clientele's first impression, both on the telephone and in our reception area, that's why we seek a receptionist who will complement our professional image and who has the grace and personality to integrate with our friendly Firm.

The working environment, whilst pressurised by the demands of a Mitel Switchboard and senior level communication, provides tremendous job satisfaction and team spirit.

Your responsibilities will also include coordination of in house function rooms and luncheons, some typing will add variety to your day (training will be given on Personal Computer).

In return for your commitment, we offer a highly competitive salary, discretionary bonus, LV's, BUPA, non-contributory pension scheme, life insurance, plus 4 weeks holiday.

If you would like to be part of our organisation, then please send us a copy of your curriculum vitae to:

Irene Masterton
Carre, Orban & Partners International
International Management Consultants
7 Curzon Street, London W1Y 7FL

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES
Recruitment Consultants

FRENCH - SLOUGH: Challenging, busy job for Bi-lingual Secretary with excellent English and French. Will work for two lawyers, one Belgian and one English, within legal department of multinational. To £10,000.

GERMAN - RICHMOND: Secretary/Sales Administrator (in 20's) for job involving order processing, using computer, and liaison via telephone and telex in German. Good typing vital, English shorthand useful. To £9,500.

LINGUIST - PUTNEY: Good English shorthand, a couple of European languages, an interest in sales or marketing and enough experience to cope with more than one boss -all needed by international firm in Putney. To £9,000.

GERMAN - CITY: Adaptable secretary/PA with City experience, good English shorthand and fluent German required. Busy job in personnel with administrative/organizational responsibilities. £10,000 + bonus and package.

01 836 3794
22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

TEMPORARARIES

We specialize in the interesting fields of Television, Films, PR, Publishing and Design and need to increase our already large team of temporaries.

If you have good secretarial skills and experience, are flexible, free for a few days, few weeks or a few months and have a strong interest in the above areas, why not telephone to discuss the possibility of temporary assignments with us?

Our rates are good, our style is friendly and professional and our jobs are amongst the best in London.

499 6566

The GROSVENOR Bureau

Recruitment Advertising

We are a young, professional agency and seek a hardworking, enthusiastic individual to assist us as an

Administration Secretary

This is an essential and highly pressurised role and would suit someone who wishes to progress to a senior admin. position.

Main responsibilities include a large volume of order inputting, liaison with senior members of staff as well as co-ordinating your own activities with those of a Receptionist and Messenger.

First class presentation and an outstanding telephone manner are required as there is extensive contact with clients and media.

A negotiable salary of not less than 9,000 p.a. plus annual bonus is envisaged.

If you have good all-round office experience (no s/h needed), accurate keyboard skills and preferably a knowledge of WP (although training is available) contact us between 6p.m. and 7p.m. tonight and tomorrow, on 01-831 2689

Bartlett advertising ltd
15 Doughty Street, London WC1N 2PL

ARE YOU CAPABLE OF TAKING ON OUR DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION?

If you have initiative, administrative flair and excellent organisational and secretarial skills including WP you might stand a chance of staying on top!

- If you would enjoy working as part of a small pressurised team in Purley

- If you would enjoy dealing with parents and professionals at all levels

- If you have at least two years' experience at senoir secretarial level and would like to earn £9,000+, then phone Carol Warrilow

01-636-5020

for an application form and further details.

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY
Putting thought into action
An equal opportunity employer

Royal College of Nursing

Administrative Assistant
to Parliamentary Advisor

Working as part of a small team dealing with parliamentary and political issues you will provide an important research support service on issues impacting on nursing in the UK, as well as administrative and secretarial support.

You will need to be versatile, bright and quick to identify the importance of information and have good audio secretarial skills and some knowledge of WP.

Salary will be in the range £9,168-£10,917 pa and benefits include 32 days holiday, interest free season ticket loan and a non-smoking environment.

Application form and full job details are available from the Personnel Officer, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB, or tel. 01-409 3333 ext. 343. Applications to be returned by 1st April 1987.

An Equal Opportunities Employer.

TELEVISION
c.£9,500

Head of Picture Publicity of a leading television company needs a very bright and capable person to handle a wide variety of tasks related to the Press, publicity, viewers enquiries and an extensive photographic library. Experience in library or photographic work is desirable, but please telephone us if you feel you have:

- Excellent organizational and administrative skills.
- Good typing (no shorthand).
- Confident, efficiency and tact in handling detailed telephone work.
- A broad-based interest and knowledge of television programmes.

01 499 6556

The GROSVENOR Bureau

ARE YOU SHARP ENOUGH TO KEEP PACE WITH LONDON'S FASTEST-MOVING FASHION COMPANY?

Must have typing speed of 50+wpm, shorthand and an organised brain.

Responsibilities include lots of administrative work, travel and hotel arrangements and control of advertising.

NO AGENCIES

Telephone Babs Fearon on 01-387 8797



pamplemousse

DOMINION INTERNATIONAL GROUP plc

Financial Services - Property Development - Natural Resources

Mature Secretary required for a Main Board Director. As well as good secretarial skills, to include shorthand, common sense and adaptability are essential. Lots of telephone liaison with overseas clients. Prestigious offices opposite Wimbledon Common.

Please send detailed Curriculum vitae in the strictest confidence to:

Angela Lammond,
Personnel Officer,
Dominion International Group Plc,
Dominion House,
49 Parkside,
Wimbledon
London SW19 5NB.

COLLEGE LEAVERS START THE BALL ROLLING

Now is the time to come and see us to hear about the exciting openings we have for college leavers. Here are just two to tempt you:

INTERIOR DESIGN
This well known interior design company in SW3 is looking for a bright young secretary. Duties will include answering queries, backing up the PA to the Partner and WP (will train). Lots of initiative and common sense are needed. If you are well presented, confident, have a good tel. manner and 45+ typ. please call us now.

P.R. EC4
Start at the top when you join this well known City-based P.R. company, assisting the Chairman's P.A. Use your newly acquired skills (80/40) to become totally involved with day-to-day correspondence and press releases. This is the perfect introduction to the world of P.R. Age 20.

If you are undecided come and join our busy temporary team while we find you the right job. Please call:-

437 6032

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS AT DIRECTOR AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT LEVEL

Planning Consultancy Ltd is the UK's most successful vendor of micro-computer systems and services to the corporate market place.

We are looking to recruit secretaries aged between 22 and 35 who are well presented, enjoy working in a busy sales/marketing or technical sales support environment, and have good skills, including shorthand, (word processing training will be given - although experience is preferred). Salary according to experience but not less than £9,000 + £1 per day LV's and 4 weeks holiday.

Please apply in writing enclosing CV to: **Personnel Department, Planning Consultancy Ltd, 46-47 Pall Mall, SW1Y 5JG**
(No Agencies)

PA SECRETARY TO FINANCIAL DIRECTOR
International Operation
Relational Technology International

The phenomenal growth and success of Relational Technology has lead to a requirement for a first class PA Secretary reporting directly to the Financial Director.

We are seeking an experienced highly numerate PA Secretary, preferably with experience in high technology, who is seeking an opportunity to work beside the Financial Director.

In addition to her first class secretarial skills she will possess the business acumen to assess priorities and to see every issue through to its final conclusion. She needs to be bright, innovative and pleasantly strong.

She will also be expected to co-ordinate the collection and distribution of monthly financial data relating to five overseas subsidiaries and this will involve using a personal computer and financial spread-sheet software. We will provide training on the latter.

This position situated in superb offices, offers an extremely attractive salary, now contributory participation in BUPA, a contributory pension scheme and four weeks annual holiday, plus statutory holidays.

Please apply in writing only to: Mr R.E. Shand, Financial Director, Relational Technology Intl., Anchor House, 15-19 Britten Street, London SW3 3TY.

RTI
Relational Technology

THE RITZ TEMPORARIES
When can you start?

If the answer is 'now' then you are reading the right advertisement.

Due to continued success in the temporary market I am recruiting experienced secretaries to meet the many weekly requirements.

I have long term bookings available for secretaries with Wang and IBM Displaywriter.

I offer top rates and prompt payment together with a friendly, professional service.

Call Julie Northeast
01-629 4343

RITZ RECRUITMENT 11/12 HANOVER STREET, LONDON W1R 9HF TELEPHONE: 01-629 4343

FLAIR FOR FASHION
£12,500
A superb position for a top calibre PA executive to look after a very charming Director. Exp. in Personnel as well as good SH typ speeds ess. Organise international fashion shows, and promotional events. Liaise with all major retail outlets. Total involvement & variety guaranteed.

CITY: 01 481 2345
WEST END: 01 408 2284
abbatt

PR £10,000+
A dynamic Public Relations company are looking for a Sec PA to work for and organise the Managing Director. A smart appearance and an extrovert personality are essential as you will be meeting and greeting all top V.I.P.'s. Good SH/typ skills required. The company offer an excellent package with salary reviews regularly.

CITY: 01 481 2345
WEST END: 01 408 2284
abbatt

ADVERTISING
£10,500
Join this prestigious Advertising and Marketing company as Sec to a young and enthusiastic Director. Your sense of fun and lively personality will be as important to the company as your skills. Plenty of variety and involvement.

CITY: 01 481 2345
WEST END: 01 408 2284
abbatt

FRENCH SPK SEC
£11,500 + Bens
Huge international oil company requires a French speaker, top calibre Senior Sec to be responsible to one of their Senior Executives. Total involvement in every aspect a true P.A. position! The successful applicant will be working in a beautiful environment in a very prestigious part of London. Excellent package including a very generous lunch allowance.

CITY: 01 481 2345
WEST END: 01 408 2284
abbatt

RESPONSIBILITY
£12,000
An American entrepreneur requires PA/Sec to assist him setting up finance for films and shows as well as real estate. A job for a personable smart Secretary with good skills who must enjoy a large proportion of client liaison and administration.

CITY: 01 481 2345
WEST END: 01 408 2284
abbatt

COMMUNICATIONS
£11,000
A first rate sec. with lots of personality is the key to this demanding role as PA to the manager of this large telecommunications company. A confident and lively presentation is essential. Excellent prospects and benefits for the right candidate.

CITY: 01 481 2345
WEST END: 01 408 2284
abbatt

SECRETARY/PA FOR CHARTERED SURVEYORS IN MAYFAIR

Required for Chairman and Managing Director of small but expanding General Practice Surveyors. Brilliant at everything, in particular computer and word processing skills, with a sense of humour and an equable nature! Appalling hours but excellent salary plus fringe benefits. Age 25 plus.

Apply in writing with CV to:

Miss Jane Swift,
94 Mount Street,
London,
W1Y 5HG.

CATCH 22
EMPLOYMENT AGENCY LTD
SECRETARIAL

PA to DIRECTOR £10,000 +

This friendly small Company in Covent Garden are looking for someone with good skills (50/90) and presentation for this prestigious position. Working at director level you will gain WP training, job satisfaction and a high salary with attractive benefits including 5% bonus scheme and private health plan. Early 20's. Send CV's or phone Isobel Carey, 360 Euston Rd, NW1, 01-387 9912 (24 hr service).

RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASST

for a shipping brokerage SW1. Are you flexible, ambitious, with lots of initiative? If so, this small friendly Company needs you! Good typing & telex exp essential. 18 yrs+. Salary Neg AAE. Send CV's or phone Samantha Loggie, 199 Victoria Street, SW1, 01-821 1133 (24 hrs service).

For other secretarial opportunities in advertising, communication and marketing companies call the above phone numbers.

medad
MEDIA & ADVERTISING

CREATIVE? £10,000 - Thriving presentation company based in superb Covent Garden offices need a third secretary to join their expanding team and assist with the running of the office. 21+ 60 typing + WP.

MAIDS OF ALL WORK, £ NEG - If you want a job with a difference, feel at ease with VIP's and are happy to muck-in with a busy team then join this small, prestigious organisation company based in Chelsea. 19+ 90/60.

FASHION PR, £9,000 - This high profile PR consultancy need an experienced and enthusiastic account group secretary to work on their fashion and health care business. Plenty of scope for involvement. 20+ 80/60.

TEMP TO PERM, to £9,500 - Our advertising clients are always happy to try out temps for their permanent vacancies. For you this can be the ideal way to find the right job.

491 8775
Recruitment Consultants

01-581 2296 — TM INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT — TM — 01-584 8931 — 50 HANS CRESCENT KNIGHTSBRIDGE LONDON SW1

INVESTMENT BANKING
c.£18,000 Package + Overtime

One of the top international investment banks is looking to recruit three secretaries/P.A.s each reporting to a Board Director. Your day-to-day duties will include extensive travel arrangements, meetings and conferences. Arranging business functions and events throughout Europe as well as being a first-class secretary at all times. You will need to be beautifully presented, well educated and have an unlimited amount of energy and to be flexibled on your working hours. Age c.24. 100/60

MARKETING
£13,000 + Big Company Perks

A well known Blue-chip company is looking for a top class secretary/PA to work for their Marketing Director. You must be capable of totally re-organising the department's systems and to follow them through, sort out minor problems in the department and generally make your bosses life as trouble free as possible. Excellent speeds essential. Age c.23. 100/60

CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY/PA
DUBAI

We are seeking a high calibre Secretary/PA experienced in all aspects of secretarial support as well as being capable of organising a very pressurised office six days a week.

This is an excellent opportunity for a well presented, self motivated and flexible person, and an attractive tax free salary plus super benefits are offered to the right person.

Applications together with C.V. and recent photograph to:

Mrs Helen Brown,
P.O. Box 320, Dubai,
United Arab Emirates.

Top Young Receptionist?

We are looking for an intelligent, elegant and sparkling Receptionist who can chaperone VIP clients including world leaders in champagne production and fashion design. This super Advertising Agency is a prominent leader in its field and has a very impressive record for looking after its own people. Some previous reception experience is essential. Age to 28 years. Salary c£9,000. To discuss this exclusive opportunity please call 01-493 5788

GORDON YATES
Recruitment Consultants

IS IT TIME YOU STARTED TO RUN YOUR OWN BUSINESS?

Exciting opportunity for an experienced and self motivated recruitment consultant to set up and manage a new specialist Employment Agency, with a backing of a substantial company.

If you are looking for a challenge and are well spoken and smartly presented call Linda Woolrych on 01 935 7799.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

requires experienced medical secretary for consultant medical Director and medical PR spokesman. To be part of enthusiastic and friendly team. Fast accurate audio typing essential. Knowledge of WP preferred, but will train. Salary according to age and experience.

Please apply with CV marked confidential to:

Mrs S McNally,
British Heart Foundation, 102 Gloucester Place,
London. W1H 4DH

OIL £9,500-£10,500

Unflappable, intelligent, flexible secretary to organise our two legal managers. Full use of secretarial skills, lots of word processing, (we will train), arranging meetings, travel, etc. French/Italian an advantage. Excellent offices and benefits, free lunch, PPP and profit share.

Please write with full C.V. to

Miss J. Goddard,
Enterprise Oil Plc,
5 Strand,
London WC2N 5HU

SVC TELEVISION

Secretary/ PA required for Managing Director of leading television post production company. Experienced at director level essential as is the ability to be self motivated and work on own initiative. Duties are varied from general secretarial work to admin and PR.

Age 25+

Shorthand 100wpm Typing 70wpm
Salary negotiable AAE

Please write enclosing CV to:
Clivette Hoare, SVC Television
Film House, 142 Wardour Street,
London. W1V 3AU.

ADMINISTRATOR PROPERTY c.£11,000

A well-known and fast moving residential property company needs a young and energetic team member to help organise their Fulham office. You'll be in your early 20's and be used to handling people and situations with diplomacy and flair. You typing skills are secondary to your ability to communicate at all levels and you'll be a great organiser who loves hard work and total involvement in the job. This is a good opportunity for for a well-presented and well-spoken PA to advance from the secretarial role.

Susan Beck RECRUITMENT 01-584 6242

ADVERTISING W1

SH Sec, 20-25. Outgoing person to work with management group. WP exp. advantage but not essential. Salary negotiable.

Phone 486-7111 ask for Michele

No agencies

JUNIOR SECRETARIES IN BANKING
c£8,500

Brilliant opportunity for young secretaries with RSA II typing (40wpm min) plus 5 'O' levels. Be trained in all aspects of banking.

Tel Shirley on 929 4202
CITY SECRETARIES
AGY

PA to MD COMMUNICATIONS

Our MD needs a well organised senior secretary to take charge of scheduling his demanding workload. If you have excellent sec skills, including WP work fast and efficiently under pressure and are a non-smoker then the job offers scope for maximum involvement in a fast moving video production and industrial communications company.

Attractive offices, WC2. Salary £11,000 + benefits.

Please call Amanda Morrell on 01 734 7251.

STRUCTURE 2000

PR EXECS	£25,000
SALES/TRAVEL/ LANGS	£18,000 +
FASHION PR	£14,000
LEISURE PROMOTIONS	£12,000
FILMS PROMOTIONS	£12,000
Involvement in production.	
MAGAZINES/PA	£11,000
CHARITY PA	£10,500
DESIGN/ADMIN	£9,500
PROPERTY	£9,500
ART GALLERY	£9,000
PUBLISHING	£8,000
PR/TRAINEE	£8,000

COLLEGE LEAVERS OPPORTUNITIES

01 409 0744
recons

£18,000

For a personal executive assistant with a discreet and sympathetic nature who can switch from social planning and international affairs to palaces and philanthropy. The job is fascinating and as the vital link there will be much contact with the top people of the world so dedication must be legion. Good skills, age 26-38.

SHEILA CHILDS RECRUITMENT
01-385 9075

£14,000 MARKETING

The Managing Director of this successful and innovative group seeks a PA with good skills who can keep pace with their plans for expansion and help him spearhead their colourful, high profile marketing drive throughout the country.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES
01-629 9323

COLCHESTER
CHARMING AND RESOURCEFUL SECRETARY

with impeccable qualifications required to help run small friendly office in isolated country house. Book-keeping an advantage. Own car essential. Non-smoker. Fabulous job. Written applications only to:

Suite 8,
International House,
World Trade Centre,
London E1 9UN

DRAKE
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£££ TEMPS £££

£150 Holiday Bonus

If you work the summer with us

Ring Moira now on

01-229 9244

THE DRAKE INTERNATIONAL GROUP

SECRETARY/ TYPIST

SW7 next to South Ken tube

Excellent salary for the right person, who needs to be a skilled accurate typist, able to take responsibility. Work for a team of highly motivated Architects/Designers in high class surroundings. A generous salary will be offered to the successful applicant.

Please write with CV to
The Office Manager,
M.H.Services,
7 Cromwell Place,
London SW7 2JN,
or telephone Debbie Gleave on 01-581 8535.

GRADUATE SECRETARY

American law firm in Mayfair seeks recent graduate, preferably available early April, for broad range of secretarial and administrative work, plus some research in connection with Capital Market Development in the UK and internationally. Good typing, literacy and willingness to take responsibility are essential. Starting salary c £8,000. Please send CV to Mrs Cavendish, 7 Balfour Place, London W1Y 5RF

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

SENIOR SECRETARIES

As one of the leading firms of international property consultants with offices in the West End and City we are seeking senior secretaries who are ideally Wang trained.

Working at associate partner level you will be mature, confident and have a professional approach in addition to your excellent communication skills, audio/typing and secretarial ability.

Please write stating preference West End or City, current salary, daytime telephone number and full career details to:

Gail Simpson
Personnel Officer
Richard Ellis
Chartered Surveyors
55 Old Broad Street
London EC2M 1LP

Flamboyant!?

PR/Advertising — £12,000

Outgrown your present job? Here is an outlet for real pazzazz and personality — working one to one with the hi-flying new MD of this world-renowned PR/Advertising Agency. He needs a true go-getter — someone who enjoys responsibility and can rise to a challenge. Strong outgoing personality? Excellent skills (100/50)? Sound experience in advertising? Find out about this exceptional opening today. Call 01-493 4466.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

CUSTOMER RELATIONS

c. £10,500 +

- We are looking for a confident, hard-working person, aged 28 plus, to take responsibility for our busy customer relations department.
- Card Protection Plan is a highly renowned company, concerned with credit card registration and security. Candidates should be well educated to A'Level standard with competent letter-writing skills and a good telephone manner.
- Previous customer relations experience is necessary in order to successfully supervise the department, cope under pressure and deal with difficult situations.
- Our small, friendly office is based near Kensington High Street and applicants should write in with their CV to:

CPP

Mrs Rae Ledger
Card Protection Plan
90 Earls Court Road,
Kensington, London W8 6SG.

TOAST OF THE TOWN to £14,000

Organising lunches and entertainment events, looking after overseas visitors and taking on a personnel role - these are some of the varied responsibilities you will have as personal assistant to the charming Managing Director of this well known spirits company. Outgoing, confident personality combined with immaculate appearance and good educational background essential. Excellent skills 90/60/WP. Age 27-35. Please call 434 4512.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

RECRUITMENT/ADVERTISING CONSULTANCY
SECRETARY/ADMIN ASSISTANT
£ NEGOTIABLE

Required by expanding and well respected consultancy in the Haymarket. In addition to general administrative and secretarial duties, the successful candidate can expect to be involved in the preparation of advertising and marketing material. Applicants should be aged in their twenties and possess good typing and office skills. Some knowledge of WP/computer systems would be desirable.

If you feel capable of working in a fast moving and demanding environment, please call

Carolyn O'Brien on 01-930 7850

BRIGHT AND BUBBLY PEOPLE PERSON

To act as banker in busy Knightsbridge Residental Letting Agents. We need someone who is well organised, will cheerfully polish off the secretarial side of the work, answer the telephones and greet our visitors with a smile. Someone who will enjoy getting fully involved with everything we do. Good secretarial skills are important. Poise and the ability to deal with people of all kinds, a must. Would suite a second jobber who is ready for more responsibility and involvement or maybe someone returning to work. Salary in the £7 - 9,000 range according to age and experience.

In the first instance please telephone Kate Catlow 01 589 2133

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

Wishes to appoint a COMMITTEE SECRETARY (Administration and Finance) to deal principally with matters relating to the College's Finance and General Purposes Committee, and the RCVS Trust Fund.

The successful applicant is likely to be a graduate with good secretarial training. Experience of committee work an advantage. Starting salary will be in the range £8789 to £10917 according to age and experience inclusive of London Weighting.

Additional information available from, and applications with CV and details of relevant experience to:

The Registrar,
32 Belgrave Square,
London SW1X 8QP.

Holland NBT

THE NETHERLAND BOARD OF TOURISM IN LONDON
is seeking a
P.A./SECRETARY
to the Director

English mother tongue with knowledge of Dutch.
Age: mid twenties
Duties include general secretarial work, administration, W.P. and book-keeping.
Apply with C.V. to: Mr. E.M. Blerens, Netherlands Board of Tourism, 25-28 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LD.
Previous applicants need not re-apply.
No agencies.

RECEPTIONIST W1

This group HQ of a Very Big Business is well aware of the importance of first impressions. So one's appearance has to be always faultless, voice obviously educated and telephone manner forever helpful. Hours are early-ish one week, late-ish the next, alternating with another receptionist and doing odd chores as needed. Age 23-35. Ring:

Mary Overton

MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT LIMITED
35 PICCADILLY LONDON W1V 9PB
01-734 7282

PUBLISHING

SECRETARY/PA required for the Managing Director of Sweet & Maxwell, the Legal and Professional Division of Associated Book Publishers (UK) Ltd. In addition to excellent shorthand, audio typwriting and word processing skills, you will have a responsible and mature outlook, good organsational ability and be confident to work on your own initiative. This is an excellent opportunity to become involved in all aspects of a very busy office. Salary c.£9,500 per annum.

Please apply in writing, enclosing CV and details of current salary to David Richards, Personnel Director, Associated Book Publishers (UK) Ltd., 11 New Fetter Lane, London. EC4P 4EE

SUPER SECRETARIES

Personnel Secretary

We need a Secretary to join our busy team in the Personnel Department.

The job involves the administration of the recruitment system, dealing with the departments word processing and communicating with people both inside and outside the organisation. Applicants must have good secretarial skills including keyboard skills to 60 wpm, and a proven ability to handle detailed information accurately.

Starting salary between £8,000–£8,500 according to experience, and excellent benefits including 28 days annual holiday, LV's, pension and free life assurance schemes, interest-free season ticket loan.

Please apply in writing to the Personnel Officer, The Association for Consumer Research, 14 Buckingham Street, London WC2.

Which?

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

SECRETARIES

The College urgently requires three secretaries. Good typing and shorthand will be needed and word processing experience will be an advantage although training will be given. If you can cope with a busy job in an interesting office with excellent working conditions come and work with us.

The College is a professional body, organizing examinations and meetings for doctors specializing in obstecrics and gynaecology. We are situated in Regents Park and the nearest underground station is Baker Street.

4 weeks annual leave, flexible working hours, free lunches and interest free season ticket loans are some of the excellent working conditions. Salaries will be from £6,802 to £8,171 and are currently under review.

For details and an application form please write or telephone:

Mrs Anita Simmonds at the R.C.O.G.,
27 Sussex Place, Regents Park,
London NW1 4RG.
Telephone: 01 262 5425 extension 223

OIL SECRETARY
FROM £9,000 + BENEFITS

A leading international oil company requires an efficient secretary in their London office to work in the refined products department. Applicants must be able to use a word processor and possess shorthand and general secretarial skills. An interest in world affairs would be a definite advantage, but is not essential. The selected secretary will also have the opportunity to carry out basic research and reporting duties. For the right candidate there is ample scope for personal development and rewards are measured strictly in line with the working attitude and performance of the selected individual.

Please send CV to
Mrs G. Eaves
Personnel Department
General Petroleum & Mineral Services (CI) Ltd
15 Knightsbridge,
London, SW1X 7LY
or telephone 01 235 7060

MONTY DON

Experienced Sec required with good typing/shorthand, high level of organisational skills and excellent manner. Minimum age 23.

Send full CV with letter to *Jill Hackel*, Monty Don Ltd, 46 Oxford Street, W1.

NON-SECRETARIAL

LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR W2

Cheerful and energetic negotiator required for our hectic lettings department based near Hyde Park. Experience not necessary but must be a "team" person. Telephone immediately:

Susan Fitz-Gibbon 01 262 5060.

CHESTERTONS PRUDENTIAL

PUBLISHING

A SECRETARY is required for the Scientific Editorial Department. General secretarial skills are essential in addition to a willingness to undertake in a mature and methodical way, a variety of administrative duties associated with the organisation of a busy Editorial Department.

Please apply in writing, enclosing CV and details of current salary to David Richards, Personnel Director, Associated Book Publishers (UK) Ltd., 11 New Fetter Lane, London. EC4P 4EE

£11,000 – Admin secretary, mid 20's+, good all-rounder for French Software Co in EC2. Only WP + admin skills needed. Call 01-377 8600 (City) or 01-439 7001 (West End) SECRETARIES PLUS - The Secretarial Consultants.

FAST & Furious £10,000 - Do you want to be in the thick of it? Where the atmosphere is crazy and the phones are going bananas? This is a fabulous opportunity to work in PR with a forward thinking Advertising Agency. Offering involvement, variety and a bubbly social environment. You should have (ast. accurate typing (shorthand useful) and a good work record. Please call today 01 409 1252 The Work Shop.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Excellent career opportunity for secretary/PA to join small friendly PR company. Well educated with good typing and organisational ability essential. Immediate start. Telephone Mrs Hobart 01 584 1744.

ART £8,000. Interesting position for someone who enjoys variety. Min age 25. Car drivers m/f. Jaygar Careers (Sloane Sq) Ltd. 01-730 5148.

SPANISH/ENGLISH SEC c£10,000 package. Excellent position assisting M/D of import co, ideally suit 2nd jobber seeking position with high language content. Will consider college leaver. B/H in both. Paragon Lang Cons 01 580 7056.

PR AGENCY W2 have immediate vacancy for experienced secretary. Good Salary and conditions. Tel: 01 402 3401.

BILINGUAL SPANISH secretary to MD of City trading co. French an advantage. S/H in English only. High language content. £9,000 + excl perks. Marrow Emp Agy (The Language Specialists) 01 636 1487.

RECEPTIONIST required for small energetic company of Estate Agents in Kensington. Please telephone 589 8899.

ADMIN/CLERICAL ASST Carry out a developing admin role involving Client liaison, staff supervision and much more. Typing at 50 wpm req'd. Salary: to £9000 plus exc. reviews. Synergy, the recruitment consultancy. 01-637 9633

N MIDDX: GERMAN bi lingual PA/Sec for high calibre post near Watford/Uxbridge. Exc skills & previous exp a must (£11,000 +). Many other bi lingual jobs available. Cavell Rec Cons 01 631 3664.

RECEPTIONIST to £9000. With this well-known company you will be based in a newly refurbished reception area where you will carry out an key PBX function within a fast-moving environment. Typing an asset. Synergy, the recruitment consultancy. 01-637 9633

28-23? Enjoy a lively trading environment as shorthand secretary to the Director of a major EC2 commodities firm. £9,000 + large bonus. Call 01-377 6600 (City) or 01-439 7001 (West End) SECRETARIES PLUS - The Secretarial Consultants.

PERSONNEL ASST £10,000 Prestigious co. seek top quality Sec (50/50) to join dynamic Personnel team. Interesting and stimulating environment. Call Jill Nicol 01 580 8522 Scruples Rec Cons.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Sec aged 21+ for Dir/Asc Exec with good skills (SH/typ & WP) for general corresp. Good presentation for dealing with Press, organising and attending functions. £11,000 + car, ben. Tel: 631 7915/242 9462. *Maggie GALE ASSOC*

PERSONNEL £8,000 - exciting opening exists for an outgoing young person with excellent communication skills and aptitude to enter the personnel field. *Working for this well-known international Company you will assist them with receptions, internal and external relations, pay structures etc. If you have good typing (shorthand useful) and some work experience, please call now on 01 493 4466 Merrywweather Advtg & Selection.*

DESIGN OPPORTUNITY £10,000. Director requires live-wire Sec with good typing (65H an asset) and flexible attitude. Train on WP. 734 1062 MBA Agy

STEPPING STONES

SOUTH OF THE RIVER to £9,500. Why commute when you can work locally for this famous name publishing house. You'll be secretary to their rights director so you will enjoy an international atmosphere and your own administrative duties. Subsidised lunch, discount on books and car parking available. GCSE/O level standard ability needed. Please telephone 01-240 3811 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

SECRETARY/ Bookkeeper required for Knightsbridge Antique Dealers. Personable person for amiable surroundings £9,000pa. Apply John Kell Ltd, 164 Brompton Rd, London SW3. Tel 01 589 6454

ADVERTISING to £9,000 - an established force in the advertising world, this young, 'family orientated' Company requires two well-bred-on't young people. Each working with 4 dynamic Managers. Your 1re-sentation must be excellent and your skills sound (80/50). Some W.P. would be essential. Age: 19+. Please telephone 01 409 1252 The Work Shop.

KENSINGTON BANKING £8,500. One years experience and keen to get into banking? Then work locally and join this leading international bank as secretary to a sales director. Fascinating environment with excellent career prospects, free lunch and many gasp subsidy. 100/70 skills and WP ability needed. Please telephone 01-240 3811 ELIZABETH HUNT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS.

WE MAY BE SMALL but we have some of the country's top companies as clients because we care about our Applicants, our Clients and our reputation. Please phone for current vacancies Alexis Personnel, Triumph House, 189 Regent Street, London W1 439 2777

WE WILL BE IN THE NEWS £8,500 - move into the challenging world of PR with this great Communications Company. Working in a busy fast-moving environment with a Director and Senior Account Executive you will assist with media monitoring and arranging press events where your organising flair will be used to the full. Excellent presentation and good typing essential. No shorthand. Please call 01 493 4466 Merrywweather Advtg & Selection.

INTERIOR DESIGNER in Knightsbridge requires Personal Assistant with good shorthand and typing two to three days weekly - hours by arrangement. 01 584 7263

MATURE RECEPTIONIST. Professional company in Victoria needs well presented person for reception. Afternoons only. Aged to 50 yrs. £64.76pw. Phone 8058/1054 Meredith Scott Recruitment.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PRIVATE HOME SW7. Personal secretary required to work for doctor with varied interests. You will be involved in organising his social/business life including travel arrangements, liaising with his advisors, arranging meetings and social engagements as well as full secretarial support. Skills 90/60 wpm. Hours 9-1.15pm £8,000 p.a. Please call 434 4512 Crone Corkill - Recruitment Consultants.

AUDIO TYPIST. word processing experience essential, required for small political research centre. Hours and salary by arrangement. Please write with CV to Mrs Brooks, Centre for Policy Studies, 8 Wilfred Street, London SW1E 6PL.

TEMPTING TIMES

* TEMPS * We need you!

COMMERCIAL

WP Secs	£6.60 ph
SH Typist	£6.00 ph
Copy Typist	£5.00 ph
Tec/Rec	£4.70 ph

LEGAL

WP Secs	£7.20 ph
Secretaries	£6.30 ph

All bookings central London. - 100/50

Ring Suzanne or Beth now!
01 629 7838
Barnett Personnel Ltd
(Rec Cons)

EASTER EXTRAS

Are you looking for temporary, word processing or secretarial work in either the West End or City? Fed up with hearing excuses and want to have an intelligent conversation with someone who cares? For varied and interesting assignments please call

Amanda (West End) 439-4344
Christine (City) 377-2885

WORD PLUS+
The WP Consultants

STAFFPLAN LIMITED
(Rec. Cons.)

PA + WP
TEACHING HOSPITAL
PERSONNEL PROJECT
£240 PW.

Salt Graduate or experienced PA with interest in people and ability to set up and run own administration system. Unusual opportunity to become fully involved in day to day running of this leading London Hospital

Please call Sarah 01 626 5283

GRADUATE CLERK needed urgently for long term assignment in SW1. For top rates and bens package call Sue now on 01-834 0388. Drake Office Overload Agy

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

PRESS & PUBLICITY officer able to increase awareness of charity's activities via quarterly newspaper & gen publicity. £9 01 404 4646. Woodhouse Rec Cons

HAMMERSMITH c£11,000 Take off with this exciting new travel concept backed by major airlines as P.A. to their senior Director in superb new W6 offices. Working at an extremely fast pace you will be fully responsible for providing total secretarial and admin backup to this very busy man. Sound Director level experience together with skills of 100+/70/WP, excellent education and immaculate appearance essential. European languages an advantage. Age 25+. Please call 434 4512 Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

PA/SEC with or without SH £10,500 + perks. A major international firm with superb City offices is looking for a very smart and well spoken PA to offer both an administrative and secretarial service to the Partner in charge of there Executive Selection Division (part of Management Consultants). This position requires a self starter with excellent organisational and communication skills. Lots of client/candidate liaison. Call Lorraine Hindmarsh on 405 6148 KINGSLAND PERSONNEL CONS.

COLLEGE LEAVER : Interior Design. Typing only (45 wpm+) needed for friendly team based in Chelsea. You must enjoy word processing and will be full trained on their wordstar. Salary £7,000. Please telephone Angela Mortimer Limited (Rec Cons) 629 9686.

CONCERTS GIGS TRAVEL & major sports events. Our client is involved with all and needs you as a shorthand PA to assist one of their dynamic Directors. Dealing on, top name events, great perks. CALL TODAY UP TILL 8pm TONIGHT 993 7311. A & A Rec Cons.

FLUENT FRENCH + Good Secretarial Skills 90/50 are your entree in W4 to a star job handling tennis personalities and involvement in major events. Preferred age 20's c.£9,500 + fringe benefits. JOYCE GUINNESS 01 589 8807 (Rec Cons)

MATURE AND sensible person to work in personnel dealing with Captains of industry. Flexi hours. 80 SH & good typing. Please call Barbara or Octavia at BJ Crawfords (Rec Cons) Tel: 01 936 9692.

RECEPTIONIST for upmarket W1 co Must be well groomed with clear typing. £8,000 + free lunch. 437 0826 PPC Agy.

SEC/NEGOTIATOR with WP or Property experience for Hampstead estate agents. £11,000+. Tel CHALCOTS 722 8676.

RECEPTIONIST West End. £9,000. 40wpm typing. Age 21. One year of office experience. Tel 581 5060. T M Ltd. Rec Cons.

GERMAN/ENGLISH PA, English SH. W1. £11,000. Language Staff Agy 455-8922.

Experienced Secretary/ Shorthand Typist

With good speeds for W1 entertainment agency handling major stars. Top salary for right applicant with cheerful disposition. Career minded.

Telephone 629 4817

EXECUTIVE SEARCH £12,600. Fast moving consultant of this friendly and team-spirited company needs a P.A. working closely with him, liaising with researchers, candidates and clients on all projects, providing secretarial and some administrative backup. 'A' level education, outgoing personality and skills 90/60/WP essential. Age 27-34. Please call 434-4512 Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

£14,000 Chairman of major plc based in SW16 requires experienced, top level P.A. to assist him in every aspect of his business and personal life. Hard working, committed approach combined with excellent secretarial skills 90/60/audio/WP and Chief Executive level experience essential. Please call 434-4512 Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

FOOD EXHIBITION A young PA is sought to become fully involved in organising food exhibitions with this friendly company. Able to function on your own initiative, you will carry out a developing role in which you will gain exc. exp. Skills: 90/50 wpm. Salary: c.£8500 pa. Synergy, the recruitment consultancy. 01-637 9633

AMERICAN BANK £9,000 + pkg. An excellent education, good SH/WP skills, coupled with an easy going manner, a sense of humour and a desire to get ahead are the qualifications necessary to work with this nice friendly company. Aged 23+. Cavendish Personnel 01 486 7897.

PUBLISHING £9,500 Are you a very fast typist? Do you have very good WP/audio skills, an excellent education and ability to work on own? Are you a workaholic? If you are all of the above, this job holds real career prospects for you. Languages and £'s. Age 21+. Cavendish Personnel 01 486 7897.

SPORTS ORGANISERS in Kew seek junior secretary to share their interest in golf and can handle some responsibilities when they travel. Shorthand not essential. Good typing and WP (will X-train). Excellent prospects within expanding organisation c.£8,000 + fringe benefits. JOYCE GUINNESS 01 589 8807 (Rec Cons)

MAYFAIR COSMETICS. £10,000. The international division of this leading cosmetics company needs a calm and confident secretary to run a busy and hectic team involved in sales and training world wide. Skills 100/60 + WP (IBM PC). Please telephone Angela Mortimer Limited (Rec Cons) 629 9686.

WEST END GALLERY requires qualified secretary. Salary £9,000. Call Leslie Dixon between 10am & 4pm on 493 8464.

HOME OFFICE.

Part time secretary required for Company Director in Kensington. Interesting work, pleasant surroundings. Hours by mutual arrangement. £8.50 per hour. **01 583 9010**

£11,000 MINIMUM. Overlooked Fashion Co Director needs you to handle all insurance matters, personnel and admin duties of these exclusive West London offices using your shorthand and audio as back-up to this experience. WE'LL WAIT TILL 8pm TO HEAR FROM YOU. 993 7311 A & A Rec Cons.

OPPORTUNITY to join an exciting international property/finance group based in Belgravia. New York and L.A. Good secretarial skills required and an excellent telephone manner essential. Age 22-28. Salary £10,000. Telephone Carolyn Reynolds 730 6236.

PERSONNEL - handle recruitment + personnel admin and occasional shift as relief secretary for this City shipping office. Rusty shorthand only. Mid 20's+. £10,000 + bonus. Call 01-377 8600 (City) or 01-439 7001 (West End) SECRETARIES PLUS - The Secretarial Consultants.

RECEPTIONIST TO £9,000. Typing not essential. This major retail group require a young receptionist with a bright, outgoing personality and the confidence to greet top customers, plus a good telephone manner to handle incoming calls. Flexibility essential to fit into busy team environment. Please call 629 7262 Graduate Appts.

FLUENT GERMAN and French £12,000 pro rata. Good shorthand and typing and knowledge of IBM DisplayWrite III are required for a 6 month contract as secretary to two senior managers in this international bank. If you are available immediately please telephone 01 940 3851 ELIZABETH HUNT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS.

PRIVATE Woodlands £9,500 - this professional organisation represents the owners of private woodlands and forests. Help protect the countryside heritage. Help present the Royal Show in the summer. Beautiful Hyde Park offices. Lots of admin and involvement in PR proposals. Good audio and some work experience essential. Please telephone 01 493 6787 Gordon Yates Consultancy.

JUNIOR SECRETARY Leading advertising agency needs 3 bright young secretaries 18+ to work in the client liaison department in W1. Good typing essential. SH an advantage. Salary max £8,800. Please call Amanda, B J Crawford (Rec Cons) Tel: 01 935 9692.

NEW MALDEN to £10,000 If you would like to work locally then join this major international company as secretary to a director. Good shorthand and typing required. Please telephone 01 949 2881 ELIZABETH HUNT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS.

ROOM AT RECEPTION to £9,000 A leading firm of W1 estate agents seeks a first class well spoken and well presented experienced receptionist/junior switchboard, pure reception duties. Please telephone 01-240 3811 ELIZABETH HUNT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS.

FINE ARTS West End. Well groomed person, over 25, with secretarial/bookkeeping skills, interested in antiques world. French advantageous. CV in first instance to Box No X85 Times.

COLLEGE LEAVER - PR £8000. This is a real career opportunity for which you will gain exp. in the full range of PR activities within a leading consultancy. Versatility is a key requirement to deal with a varied function involving lots of admin. Skills: 80/50 wpm. Synergy, the recruitment consultancy. 01-637 9633

FRENCH + ITALIAN - PR! Admin sec with translation skills in French and Italian to work for PR Manager of renowned Int cons. SH is essential, as is ability to assist on PR side and run office in busses absence. £10,500 + free lunches. Marrow Emp Agy (The Language Specialists) 01 636 1487.

OIL'S Well £8,000 - friendly, successful Oil Company in Covent Garden seek professional person to join their team. An excellent opening offering lots of involvement, fabulous offices and a great bunch of people. Good typing essential. Knowledge of WP useful. Please telephone 01 409 1252 The Work Shop.

PROFESSIONAL non-profit making body seek Sec to Executive Director and Admin Assistant/Sec. Both need good presentation/speech plus organisational and WP experience. Basic accounting knowledge useful. Tel: Amanda Dawes on 01 831 2401, Chalice Recruitment and Training Consultants.

TRAINEE INTERVIEWER for Secretarial Agency, Chancery Lane. We need enthusiasm & a sense of humour in return for high rewards. 404 4665.

MARKETING & SALES A chance to break into this established but expanding co using your typing and WP skills. A new position to be created for the right person with more than ample prospects and involvement. Plush offices and an excellent package. WE AWAIT YOUR CALL TILL 8pm THIS EVENING. 993 7311 A & A Rec Cons

SECRETARIES for Architects & Designers. Permanent & Temporary positions. AMEA specialist rec cons 01 734 0532

YOUNG SECRETARY to £9,500 - a unique opportunity for a young, professional secretary to gain invaluable experience. Based in the fabulous Mayfair offices of this international investment Company, you will be working for the Managing Director, a very well-known and respected businessman, and with his two PAs. Good skills and a confident, outgoing approach essential. Excellent benefits. Age: 20+. Please call 01 493 4466 Merrywweather Advtg & Selection.

TRAVEL CO. P.A sec to Director of large cruise co SW1. High level of involvement incl some personnel. SH & WP reqd. £11,000. Woodhouse Rec Cons 404 4646.

VARSITY IN PARK LANE for 20-21 year old you're accurate typing plus spelling, pleasant telephone manner & enjoyment of WP will mean a busy position with this young progressive firm of venture capitalists. £8,000 neg plus free lunch. Stella Fisher (Rec Cons) 01 836 6644

PROFESSIONAL PA £10,000 - work with two charming Directors when you join this extremely professional Finance Co in Basinghall St. Your duties (complicated) diaries and make all their travel arrangements as well as assisting the Chairman's PA in running the office. Good shorthand and typing a must. Age: 22+. Please telephone 01 493 5787 Gordon Yates Consultancy.

TRY GRAPE ESCAPE? £8,500 - Established firm of Sherry Importers seek bright, outgoing young person with stacks of initiative and common sense to join their National Accounts Manager. Liaise with very prominent clients, you will become involved with all aspects of this fascinating business. Excellent skills essential (100/50). Age: 19+. Please telephone 01 493 5787 Gordon Yates Consultancy.

AUDIO SECRETARY/WP Operator required by friendly and progressive legal office in Richmond. The post involves general secretarial duties and daily use of our comprehensive computer system. Previous legal/computer experience helpful but not essential, training available to successful applicant. Salary commensurate with experience but not less than £8,000. 01 940 1934

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST (Monarch S/B) reqd to cover maternity leave (approx 10 months) with T.V. in W1. Ring Moira for further details now on 01-229 9244, Drake Office Overload Agy.

PERSONNEL £8,000 - exciting opening exists for an outgoing young person with excellent communication skills and aptitude to enter the personnel field. *Working for this well-known International Company you will assist them with receptions, internal and external relations, pay structures etc. If you have good typing (shorthand useful) and some work experience, please call now on 01 493 4466 Merrywweather Advtg & Selection.*

SECRETARY/ Bookkeeper required for Knightsbridge Antique Dealers. Personable person for amiable surroundings £9,000pa. Apply John Kell Ltd, 164 Brompton Rd, London SW3. Tel 01 589 6454

WE MAY BE SMALL but we have some of the country's top companies as clients because we care about our Applicants, our Clients and our reputation. Please phone for current vacancies Alexis Personnel, Triumph House, 189 Regent Street, London W1 439 2777

COLLEGE LEAVER — CHARITY to £8000. Start your career with this charity run by celebrities. Carrying out an admin role involving organising major fund raising events, you will gain exc. exp. Skills: 90/50 wpm. Synergy, the recruitment consultancy. 01-637 9633

INTERNATIONAL FASHION W1 - £8-9,000 plus dress allowance, staff discount etc and subsidised catering facilities. The export sales manager and export marketing manager of a top name company are looking for some one aged 20+ who likes client contact to replace their graduate multilingual secretary. To be successful you do not need to be a graduate or speak more than one European language but you must have confidence, enthusiasm and be interested in fashion. If you have good shorthand and typing, please call Angela Mortimer Limited (Rec Cons) 629 9686

WHAT Motivation? £9,500 - are you turned on by success? This is a truly exceptional environment where vigour, youth and sheer commitment combine to achieve heady results. The Company manages commercial construction projects, designing amazing interiors for some of the UK's most forward-thinking companies. Your role is central, co-ordinating activity and providing secretarial support. No shorthand. Good typing. WP experience preferred. Age: 24+. Please telephone 01 409 1252 The Work Shop.

IN THE NEWS £8,500 - move into the challenging world of PR with this great Communications Company. Working in a busy fast-moving environment with a Director and Senior Account Executive you will assist with media monitoring and arranging press events where your organising flair will be used to the full. Excellent presentation and good typing essential. No shorthand. Please call 01 493 4466 Merrywweather Advtg & Selection.

TAKE OFF IN TRAVEL £9,500 - If you are seeking variety and involvement, the MD of this Travel Agency in Hammersmith is offering that and more. He is relaxed, easy-going, very hard working and needs organising. You must be flexible and able to work on your own initiative when dealing with priests, liaising with tour operators, customers and agency staff. If you have good skills (80/60) and min 6 months typing exp call now on 01 493 4466 Merrywweather Advtg & Selection.

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MONDAY
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**TUESDAY

SPORTS LETTERS

Rugby requires rough justice

From Mr J.B. Goudge

Sir, After watching the Wales v England international at Cardiff with despair and disgust (and the subsequent self-righteous attitude of the Welsh officials with some irritation) I welcome Michael Heal's article (March 11) and applaud his proposal for reducing the number of players in the lineout, and his censure of the England selectors, coaches and captain.

But surely the introduction of a "sin bin" would indicate acceptance of such behaviour as we saw as inevitable. Rough justice is the only justice to be expected in a rough game. It should be made clear that deliberate, aggressive use of fists, feet and teeth, whether provoked or not, would result in sending off, and this policy should be carried out by referees in as determined and consistent a manner as possible.

I believe this would clean up the game quickly and effectively — whereas 10 minutes or so off the field would be a comparatively small deterrent, and would itself be accepted as normal in time, as it has in ice hockey.

Yours faithfully,
J.B. GOUDGE,
Capers, Dormansland,
Lingfield, Surrey.

From Mr Phil Bennett

Sir, Your Rugby Correspondent suggests that the English team were solely responsible for the ill-discipline in the Wales v England Rugby International.

I beg to differ, and would like to point out that it takes two to make a quarrel, and in this case television clearly showed that a Welshman had thrown the first punch.

In the electric atmosphere of Cardiff Arms Park where 62,000 partisan supporters often encourage a physical game, it was hard to believe that an inexperienced referee was appointed to control this match. Having accepted that any referee must gain international experience wherever the appointment, it seems ridiculous to throw anyone in at the deep end, when other alternatives exist. This referee demonstrated his inability to control the game and was obviously bewildered by the events surrounding him. At one stage the touch-judge appeared to be more in control. If a severe caution had been applied to both teams, after the initial brawl, then a sensible game of rugby football might well have ensued. Instead the referee penalized England out of the game to signify his opinion as to the responsibility for the fights.

Other than the officials, the burden of responsibility must lie with both captains. Neither captain appeared to be interested in controlling their players, so that a proper game could take place.

If any penalties are to be applied then both captains should be severely censured, or dropped.

Yours respectfully,
PHIL BENNETT,
The Old Forge,
Old Kiln Lane,
Churt, Surrey

From Mr Tim Blenkin

Sir, The brawls in the recent rugby match in Cardiff, between Wales and England, raise once again the question of why referees are not empowered to dismiss offending players at once; or, if they are so empowered, why they fail to do so. The reduction of a side's player strength by some two or three would have a marvellously salutary effect upon discipline and improve behaviour at a stroke.

Yours faithfully,
TIM BLENKIN,
Farlington Beck,
Farlington, York.

A better course

From Mr A. P. Willmer

Sir, Adrian Metcalfe, featured recently in The Times, apparently purports to describe televised motor racing as tedious. With respect this is because he has probably formed this opinion from the televising of grands prix which I agree, when presented live for long periods, can prove to be extremely boring even to a racing driver like myself.

I would suggest that to obtain a better picture and perhaps as a foretaste as to how motor racing could be presented on television he arranges for his cameras to be present, say, at Mallory Park, Leicestershire on August 2. This will be a typical club meeting with short snappy 10-lap races for cars as varied as Formula Ford single seaters, saloons and old MG Sports cars of the 1930s, 1940s and early 1950s. As he probably knows full well, it is a small circuit which will not need many cameras and a little imaginative editing could well produce a totally different picture of motor racing to the general public than the standard BBC diet, which it must be said has itself improved immeasurably in recent years, but still falls far short of what could be done.

Yours faithfully,
A.P. WILLMER,
18-20 High Street,
Buckden, Huntingdon,
Cambs.

Alcohol problem

From Mr Nicholas Betteridge

Sir, I was interested to read in Mr Martin Offer's letter (March 11) that "bemused gentlemen were obliged to empty their hip-flasks into bins provided for the purpose." This was after being subjected to a body search at gates while queuing to get into the RFU headquarters at Twickenham to watch the England v France international.

I comment particularly on this requirement of those attending that international with hip flasks on their persons, as there is no actual restriction on taking alcohol into Twickenham, but as stated on the face of the tickets "entry to the ground will be denied to persons carrying cans or bottles — Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975".

There is no question therein what those containers should contain, and there is again no mention of hip-flasks. If the authorities at Twickenham specify what may or may not be taken to the ground, they are restricted by such specifications.

The bemused hip flask carriers would have been within their rights to have refused to be subjected to such officious behaviour by clearly ill-informed RFU employees.

Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS BETTERIDGE,
7 Lancaster Street,
Lewes, East Sussex.

University sport

From Mr Eric Joyce

Sir, Your article on university sport (March 6) referred to the sports scholarship scheme at University College, Swansea, and called for the injection of funds from industry into such ventures. In fact, the University of Stirling has run a similar sports bursary scheme for some seven years, drawing its financing from the University, trusts and industry. The scheme has produced international sports people across a wide range of disciplines and has served as the backbone of a sports regime which has enjoyed a remarkable and well known degree of success.

Potential industrial sponsors of sport should bear in mind the world and Commonwealth titles currently held by Stirling students before committing readies elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC JOYCE,
32 Inwood Avenue,
Hounslow, Middlesex.

Artificial turf helps cashflow

From Mr Simon Binning

Sir, I can understand that the Football League wants the maximum possible number of clubs to survive and is prepared to act to prevent closures and mergers. Yet in preventing them continuing to construct artificial pitches the League risks blocking off a promising route to financial stability for clubs of the lower divisions. The contradiction is poignant for me, since I am both a football fan and a business consultant.

Artificial pitches are economically attractive first and foremost because they almost guarantee that games can be played and thereby maintain the clubs' cashflow when it might otherwise be interrupted through fixture cancellations. No less important, however, is the additional revenue that can be earned from the pitch by hiring it out for puposes as diverse as hockey, American football, or even a Sunday market. With floodlighting available, as it already is at League grounds, the pitch has a potential 10 to 12 hours revenue-earning day. Moreover, the wider use of football grounds' facilities can only help to integrate them into their communities, an ideal to which the League has long paid lip-service.

There are still some technical problems to be overcome before the characteristics of artificial pitches match those of grass in all respects. Yet, no one who is familiar with the advances in the design of artificial surfaces for hockey over the past five to 10 years will doubt that this can be achieved, especially with a potential market of 80 to 90 clubs to aim for. By adopting a negative attitude from the outset, the League creates a self-fulfilling prophecy: "No market, no development work, no improvement, no approval" etc.

Few would dispute that a good grass pitch is still the best surface for football. However, given the current financial uncertainty surrounding many clubs, adopting artificial surfaces appears to be one acceptable compromise to maintain the League's rich diversity. It would be ironic if the authorities' attitude were seen to push clubs into financial collapse making them easy prey for property developers. That surely is a result that hardly anyone wants.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON BINNING,
Grant Thornton Management Consultants Ltd,
Fairfax House,
Fulwood Place, WC1.
March 12.

Improving London

From Mrs Beverley Stoop

Sir, Not everyone in south-west London prefers football grounds to shops and offices. I agree with Philip Stubbes who wrote 400 years ago "Football . . . causeth fighting, brawling, contention, quarrel picking, murder, homicide and great effusion of bloode, as daily experience teacheth".

So I have no objection to the property developers improving the area.

Yours faithfully,
BEVERELEY STOOP
28 Edith Grove, SW10.
March 7.

A mighty hit

From Mr P.C.R. Whittle

Sir, Comment from a 10-year-old daughter when she heard that Gavaskar had scored 10,000 runs in Test matches:

"Golly! Where did the ball go?"

Some record!

Yours faithfully,
P.C.R. WHITTLE,
Thrift Wood,
Pigeon House Lane,
Freeland, Oxon.
March 10.

SNOOKER

Ireland confident of third world title

By Sydney Friskin

Dennis Taylor believes Ireland can achieve their third success in a row at the world team championship, which starts today at Bournemouth and ends on Saturday.

There is a prize fund of £160,000 and the Irish team of Taylor, Alex Higgins, and Eugene Hughes are hoping to share the first prize of £32,000. "There is a great spirit in our team as we all play for each other. The atmosphere is really tense in a team game," Taylor said.

As champions, Ireland are entitled to enter two teams and naught they will play the Ireland B team, made up of Patsy Fagan, Paddy Browne, and Tommy Murphy. The remaining six places in the draw are filled by England, Canada, Wales, Australia, Scotland, and the Rest of the World.

England are led by Steve Davis, who will be assisted by world champion Joe Johnson and Tony Meo. Their first-round opponents are Scotland, composed of Murdo MacLeod, Stephen Hendry, and Matt Gibson. Silvino Francisco, of South Africa, Tony Drago, of Malta, and Dene O'Kane, make up an interesting Rest of the World team.

DRAW: 1: Ireland A v Ireland B. 2: Australia v Wales. 3: Canada v Rest of the World. 4. Scotland v England. Semi-finals: Winners of 1 v winners of 2; winners of 3 v winners of 4. Today's matches: Australia v Wales (2.0); Ireland A v Ireland B (7.0).

Hearn tour is big business

By Jeremy Novick

To say that snooker is now very big business is no great revelation. But it is true. The week-long Chinese tour made by Barry Hearn's Romford Matchroom team pulled in an estimated television audience of 170 million.

The team have toured everywhere from Brazil to Thailand. Even Iceland has been seen them. But maybe the most glaring example of snooker's present stature is that Stephen Hendry, the 18-year-old Scottish prodigy, now goes under the official name of Stephen Hendry Ltd.. Snooker is now very big business.

It is against this background that the Rothmans Matchroom League has been set up. A seemingly low-key event, it consists of Hearn's seven Matchroom players — Steve Davis, Dennis Taylor, Jimmy White, Neal Foulds, Tony Meo, Terry Griffiths and Willie Thorne — plus one 'star guest', Cliff Thorburn.

Each player plays seven matches over eight frames with three points for a win and one for a draw. The matches are played over weekends and are set in such places as Grimsby, Hull, Mansfield and Torbay.

The nearest the league comes to London is when they visit Croydon in April. A seemingly low-key event except for the prize money. There's £50,000 for the league winner, plus £65,000 for the winner of next season's Rothmans Grand Prix. If the same player wins both, he will receive the £35,000 bonus. That adds up to £150,000, the richest prize in snooker.

Then there are the bonuses. Guaranteed appearance money, £100 for each frame won, a magnum of champagne for the highest break in each frame, £2,400 for the highest break and so on. In the unlikely event of someone scoring a 147 maximum there is a £69,000 Rolls Royce Silver Spirit waiting. Not so low key.

One of the most important aspects of the league is its non-televised status. Television may have made modern snooker what it is, but Hearn says: "We're getting into a potential overkill situation. Last year there were over 400 hours of televised snooker. Let's not kill the golden goose."

For snooker, it is important to re-establish live contact in the light of the impending restrictions concerning tobacco-sponsored tournaments, while Rothmans are maintaining interest with an eye on future European involvement. Regardless, Hearn's belief that there is still a market for live snooker has been vindicated. In each of the six matches so far the evening sessions have been sold out.

The emphasis has been placed on taking the game to towns that do not usually get live snooker. As Peter Huntley, special events manager at Rothmans, says: "When the League comes to places like Mansfield it's like the circus rolling into town. People will have known about it for months beforehand. It was agreed to stay out of London because there it would be just something else. In these places, it's an event." An event that encompasses not only live snooker, but also the inevitable hard sell, with everything on sale from snooker paraphenalia to Matchroom aftershave.

It is the make-up of the sponsorship that ensures this. Under the £40,000 Rothmans umbrella there exists a network of individually negotiated deals that ensure months of pre-publicity. In each area the local newspaper sponsors their particular match.

As far as the players are concerned, it is all good work. It is what they are there for. So for some the eight frame format is a bit puzzling. "On Saturday I played Terry Griffiths in Hull and we drew four frames each," said Neal Foulds, "I didn't know what to think when I came off. Had I done well? Had I done badly? I really didn't know.

Initially, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) had feared that Rothmans might stop sponsoring their world-ranking Grand Prix tournament. This fear has now been assuaged since, shortly after the Matchroom deal was signed, Rothmans concluded a further three-year contract with the WPBSA. So it seems everyone is happy. Del Simmons, the WPBSA chief negotiator said: "It's all good for snooker. By taking snooker around the country it can only develop and that's good news. It doesn't matter who's doing it."

For the future, Hearn intends expansion. Next year the league will go into Europe as well as Scotland and Wales.



Military service: Thorne advises during the Chinese tour

League table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
S Davis	4	3	1	0	24	8	10
T Griffiths	5	1	3	1	20	20	6
D Taylor	3	1	1	1	14	10	4
N Foulds	3	1	1	1	12	12	4
W Thorne	3	1	1	1	10	14	4
J White	2	1	1	0	9	7	4
A Meo	3	0	0	3	5	19	0
C Thorburn	1	0	0	1	2	6	0

BADMINTON

The eternal Gilks back in English fold

By Richard Eaton

In spite of 25 years of competition, eleven All-England titles and a spell as world No. 1 in the Seventies, ambition still stalks the mind of Gillian Gilks, the long-legged, larger-than-life lady, who is probably still the best-known name in badminton.

Mrs Gilks has been selected — and has accepted — to be part of England's 12-strong squad for the world championships in Beijing in two months' time. She will then be one month short of her 37th birthday.

Last year, we were told that she would cut down and gradually eliminate overseas commitments. Many interpreted that as a form of retirement from serious competition.

But she and Martin Dew are now likely to be our best bet for any sort of medal in any of the five events. Almost as remarkable, Mrs Gilks believes she still has some chance of winning a gold medal. It is the lure of this that is part of the reason to have one more try.

"I have never won a world gold medal," she said. "And while it doesn't bother me that I have only silvers and bronzes, I suppose it is that which is drawing me again. Of course, I probably would not have come back had not Martin wanted to play with me."

Although slightly slower, and with just a hint of a weight increase these days, Mrs Gilks is still a formidable player. She has returned from an Achilles tendon injury, sustained 18 months ago, that would have destroyed anyone else's career.

Realistically, it is hard to see anyone else picking up medals. Darren Hall has improved encouragingly in the last month, while Nigel Tier and Gillian Gowers, who won England's only medal, a bronze, last time, have been reinstated as a mixed partnership. But with Helen Troke, the European champion, injured and Steve Baddeley, the Commonwealth champion, taking a three-month rest, the prospects look modest.

ENGLAND SQUAD: Men's singles: D Hall, N Yates. Doubles: M Dew and D Tailor, A Goode and N Tier. Women's singles: F Elliott, S Halsall. Doubles: G Clark and G Gowers, Halsall and K Beckman. Mixed doubles: Dew and G Gilks, Tier and Gowers, Tailor and Clark.

Gatting's criticism of school standards

By John Goodbody

Mike Gatting yesterday criticized teachers for failing to improve basic standards of cricket in state schools. The captain of England's successful Test side joined in the debate on the decline of team games by saying that although boys could join clubs they need a "grounding at some level".

Gatting said: "Schools from what I can gather, perhaps are not giving them the grounding. Schools have to take some responsibility."

Gatting, who was speaking in a debate on the BBC's *Day to Day* television programme, presented by the former Labour MP Robert Kilroy-Silk, said he was "quite keen" that both sexes should play sports together as has become commonplace in many schools. "But you get to the stage when some kids are better than others. I would like to know what happens in school periods," he said.

He particularly cited the lunch break when, in his own experience, school teams could get together for practice.

Carole Rowbotham, the chief inspector of physical education for the Inner London Education Authority, stressed that she was not against team games, although she has previously said that inter-school matches should take place outside school hours.

"We should be re-educated to say that we are about all children and for the greatest good for the greatest number. But this is not to say that individual talents should not be nurtured," she said.

Mrs Rowbotham wanted a balance between team games and individual sports and also between indoor and outdoor activities.

But she said that fewer teachers were now willing to give up their time to run out-of-school activities and also that "teacher action has done a tremendous dis-service to the whole of education, but physical education in particular".

ATHLETICS

Sponsor keeps faith with AAA

The Amateur Athletic Association's Five Star Award Scheme is being sponsored for the seventh successive year by *Esso*. A cheque for £7,500 was presented in London yesterday to Mike Farrell, general secretary of the AAA, by the company's advertising and communications manager, David Baxter.

Millions of schoolchildren have participated in the scheme which measures their athletics achievements.

● Eamonn Coghlan, the reigning world 5,000 metres champion, plans to step up to 10,000 metres at this year's world championships in September.

The mercurial Irishman, better known as a middle-distance runner, does not believe he will be out of his depth in Rome. "Certainly it's a gamble, but I've been pretty successful so far and I'm taking it very seriously," he said.

"I wouldn't consider it if I didn't think I was capable of winning. I'm 34 now, which is the right time to experiment with the 10,000 metres. I've got nothing to prove at 5,000 metres, so you could see it as a natural progression.

Court of Appeal

Law Report March 18 1987

Court of Appeal

Surveyor liable to purchaser

Smith v Eric S. Bush (a firm)
Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Edward Eveleigh
[Judgment March 13]

Where a surveyor, who had been engaged by a building society to carry out a reasonably careful visual inspection of property for the purposes of a valuation required by section 13 of the Building Societies Act 1986 in the knowledge that the would-be purchaser of the property, who had paid for the inspection, was likely to rely on his report alone, negligently failed to discover a structural defect which he would have discovered had he exercised such care, it was not fair and reasonable, for the purposes of sections 2(2) and 11(3) of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977, to allow the surveyor to rely on general disclaimers of liability for negligence contained in the report and mortgage application.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, dismissing an appeal by the defendant, Eric S. Bush, a firm of surveyors, from a judgment of Norwich County Court (Mr Assistant Recorder G. Draycott) which on April 17, 1986 had awarded the plaintiff, Mrs Jean Patricia Smith, £4,379 damages for professional negligence in failing to discover, in the course of a visual inspection carried out for the Abbey National Building Society, that flues in a house which she had subsequently bought without the benefit of any structural survey were unsupported, which defect had rendered the house unfit for habitation and had caused the flues to collapse.

Mr Nigel Hague, QC and Miss Jane Davies for the defendant; Mr Robert Seabrook, QC and Mr Philip Havers for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the words in the notice on the copy of the report supplied to the plaintiff, "the surveyors have made this report without any acceptance of responsibility on . . . their part to you" were meaningless if they did not extend to liability for negligence and, apart from the 1977 Act, would have provided an effective defence to the plaintiff's claim.

Whether it was fair and reasonable in all the circumstances to allow reliance on a notice excluding liability for negligence had to depend on the circumstances of the particular case.

However, the circumstances of the insyant case were common, since it was the practice of most if not all building societies to include disclaimers in substantially the same terms purporting to protect themselves and their surveyors from all liability.

Where he was dealing with property at the lower end of the market and knew that the purchaser would be supplied with a copy of his report and was likely to rely on it and not instruct her own surveyor, it was not fair and reasonable that a professional surveyor should be able to rely on any general disclaimers unrelated to any special factors affecting the particular property to exempt him from all liability to the purchaser for negligence if his inspection turned out not to have been reasonably careful.

It might be different — his Lordship expressed no opinion — where the mortgage applicant who chose to rely on a building society surveyor's report despite having read such disclaimers was himself a surveyor or a lawyer who understood those matters. Most purchasers would not have seen any reason to incur the cost of instructing a second surveyor after they had read the building society surveyor's report.

Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir Edward Eveleigh delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gilbert; Hood Vores & Allwood, Dereham.

Trespass over the roof

Stranulley Investments Ltd v Barpress Ltd
Before Lord Justice O'Connor and Lord Justice Nicholls
[Judgment February 17]

Where the parcels clause of a lease did not specifically state that the roof of the building was part of the demised premises, the court was entitled to infer from the terms of the repairing covenant and the words of the parcels clause itself that the roof and the airspace above it did from part of the premises demised to the lessee.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Stranulley Investments Ltd from a decision dated July 28, 1986 of Mr Justice Mervyn Davies, who on the plaintiffs' application for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court granted the defendants, Barpress Ltd, unconditional leave to defend.

Mr Paul de la Piquerie for the plaintiffs; Mr Peter Susman for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that the defendants had put in a fire escape and ventilation duct on premises in Mortimer Street, Marylebone, London, which impinged in part on to the plaintiffs' property.

The defendants admitted that the fire escape and ventilation duct had been erected without leave or licence, but said it did not constitute a trespass because they denied that the roof and airspace above it was part of the property demised to the plaintiff.

The plaintiffs' lease was made in 1936 for 99 years and contained a full repairing covenant which provided that the lessee would during the term "when and as often as need . . . substantially repair support and uphold the . . . buildings and premises with all pavements sinks sewers drains . . . and all erections and improvements erected or made or to be erected or made upon the . . . premises".

It could not be argued that that lease did not demise the roof and exterior walls. The judge had concluded that it was arguable even though he said that there was a strong case for judgment under Order 14.

There was no defence to the action and the plaintiffs were entitled to mandatory injunctions requiring the defendants to remove the fire escape and ventilation duct.

LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS, agreeing, said that the plaintiffs had a 99-year lease with a full repairing covenant and the parcels clause provided that the property demised was "all that piece or parcel of ground with the messuages and buildings erected thereon situate and being on the south side of . . . with the dimensions and abuttals thereof . . .".

The buildings now formed part of a terraced block. There was no escape from the conclusion that the demise was of the whole of the building and the roof and the airspace above the roof.

If that construction were not given, one conclusion which would inevitably follow would be that the lessee's repairing obligation would not extend to the roof as such and plainly that was not intended.

Solicitors: Binks Stern & Partners; Elkan David & Co.

Challenge to the judge

Ex parte Watson

The discretion to grant leave to apply for judicial review would not be exercised where the applicant, who wished to challenge a judge's decision on the basis of the judge's misconduct in the conduct of the hearing, was entitled to appeal against the judge's decision to the Divisional Court of the Chancery Division in Bankruptcy, which, if it allowed the appeal, would be able to grant the relief which the applicant had originally sought.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Parker and Lord Justice Stocker) so stated on March 13, refusing an application for leave to apply for judicial review of a decision of Croydon County Court.

Tenancy application

Bar (orse Hancock) v Pathwood Investments Ltd

The county court had jurisdiction to allow an application for a new tenancy under section 29 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954, which had been made within the time prescribed by section 29(3) but referred to only part of the holding in respect of which the applicant was entitled to claim a new tenancy, to be amended after that time had expired in order to identify the whole of the holding to which the application related.

Such an amendment was not tantamount to a fresh application out of time, but merely ensured that the holding to which the application related was correctly described.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dillon and Lord Justice Glidewell) so held on February 27, allowing an appeal by the applicant from Bloomsbury County Court (Judge Brooks), which had refused to allow his application for a new tenancy under section 29 of the 1954 Act to be amended so that it related to the whole of his holding rather than part of it.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that an application which referred to only part of the holding was valid, and allowing it to be so amended after the time limit had expired did not deprive the landlord of a vested right to resist the grant of a new tenancy in respect of the parts of the holding not referred to in the unamended application, since such a right had never arisen: in the absence of any agreement between the parties a new tenancy could be granted only in respect of the whole holding.

Reasonable provision in will

Rajabally v Rajabally
Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Lord Justice Neill
[Judgment February 23]

In considering whether reasonable financial provision had been made in a will for an applicant under the Inheritance (Provisions for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 a court was required to have regard to the facts as at the date of the hearing but was not entitled to take account of legally unenforceable assurances given by other beneficiaries under the will.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Bibie Anifa Rajabally, from a decision of Mr Justice Nicholls who on October 22, 1985 dismissed the plaintiff's claim and found in favour of the defendant, Osman Rajabally, on an application relating to the estate of Mamode Sheriff Rajabally.

Mr Dirik Jackson for the plaintiff; Mr Mark Blackett-Ord for the defendant.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that the deceased, who died in 1980, was married twice. The defendant was the son of his first marriage and was now aged 35.

The plaintiff was the deceased's second wife and was married in 1957. She was now aged 45 and had two sons aged 23 and 26.

The deceased left his estate to his widow and three children in equal quarter shares. The main asset was a property which had been the matrimonial home since 1962 when it was purchased on a mortgage.

The plaintiff claimed the whole estate and that claim was supported by her two sons but opposed by the defendant. The judge dismissed the claim and held that the will made reasonable provision for the plaintiff.

The deceased, the plaintiff and their two sons had lived in the property but the defendant had lived with an aunt. The deceased had worked as a tailor until 1973 when his health failed.

The household was then maintained by the plaintiff who went out to work and paid for the mortgage and other outgoings. During the last years of his life the deceased was in hospital almost permanently. The judge did not doubt that the plaintiff did her best to cope.

The plaintiff and her two sons continued to live in the house. She was employed at about £4,500 a year and also received a widows' pension. Her sons were not available for cross-examination at the trial and information as to their means was limited, although they did contribute towards living expenses.

The plaintiff and her two sons had no assets apart from the house. The defendant had had a series of nervous breakdowns and the medical evidence was that his mental illness could recur without warning.

That was a severe disadvantage in getting work although he was well motivated. He lived alone in a small flat and received social security of £34 a week.

The judge had to ask himself whether in all the circumstances the dispositions in the will made reasonable financial provision for the plaintiff. He held that the plaintiff and her two sons together had the house and were to be treated as enjoying the benefit of that, whereas the defendant had very limited means and an uncertain future.

The judge said that as her sons were not objecting to the plaintiff taking their shares in the house, he had reached the view that if the defendant kept his quarter share the consequence would be that the plaintiff would have to buy him out and could do that by borrowing £13,000 which was a quarter of the current value of the house.

The 1975 Act required as a precondition to making an order, that the disposition of the estate was not such as to make reasonable provision for the applicant.

It was well established that section 2 of the Act required two questions to be considered. First whether the will made reasonable financial provision for the applicant and second, if it did not, what the court thought was reasonable.

The judge said that the provision in the will was reasonable and therefore the second question never arose. The true question for the judge was never presented to him in a reasonable way.

The judge held that the will made reasonable provision for the plaintiff in the light of the assurances by the sons that they were willing to transfer their share to the plaintiff and also by the defendant that he was willing to be bought out.

Under section 3(5) of the Act the court was required to have regard to the facts as known to the court at the date of the hearing. But it was not possible to reach the conclusion that reasonable provision had been made for the plaintiff on the basis of legally unenforceable assurances that the parties were not going to insist on their legal rights.

Mere assurances were not sufficient. Parties who felt that a widow was not properly provided for could agree terms and come before the court who would then make an order.

The judge misdirected himself in reaching the conclusion that the will made proper provision on the ground of the assurances. The will gave the widow a quarter share only and that could not be reasonable provision for a wife in the light of the labour and finances she had contributed.

Therefore the second question arose as to what was reasonable provision. The defendant was a son with very little means and an uncertain future. On the other hand the widow should be provided with real security in the house. If the defendant was to be paid out at £13,000 the plaintiff's ability to stay in the house was extremely tenuous.

The defendant should have a legacy of £7,500 raised by mortgage and subject thereto the house should vest in the plaintiff absolutely.

Lord Justice Croom-Johnson and Lord Justice Neill agreed.

Solicitors: Gouldens; Collissons.

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CHELTENHAM

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Midsummer Gamble.
2.50 DESERT ORCHID (nap).
3.30 Withy Bank.
4.05 Tawridge.
4.40 Fearless Leader.
5.15 Welsh Oak.

By Michael Seely

2.15 BONANZA BOY (nap). 2.50 Pearlyman. 4.05 Kildimo.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.50 DESERT ORCHID.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0432 TIMESFORM 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ..... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

Going: good

BBC 1

2.15 SUN ALLIANCE NOVICE HURDLE (Grade I: £24,930: 2m 4f) (30 runners)

101	6-1120	ABU KADRA 39 (D,G,S) (T Painting) J Francome 6-11-7	S Smith Eccles	88	
104	21?11	BONANZA BOY 25 (C,D,F,S) (Mrs J Debenham) P J Hobbs 6-11-7	Peter Hobbs	● 99	
105	3004	BROADLEAF 53 (A Richards) H O'Neill 6-11-7	R Chapman	70	
106	00-110	CITY ENTERTAINER 34 (D,BF,S) (A Haddock) Mrs C Postlethwaite 6-11-7	M Dwyer	88	
107	334110	CLOUGHTANEY 21 (BF,S) (C Maye) P Mullins (ire) 6-11-7	A Mullins	90	
108	0-44	CREDIT CUT 16 (R Bott Ltd) O Sherwood 5-11-7	C Cox	79	
109	111240	EROSTIN RULER 4 (D,F,G) (J Upson) T Casey 6-11-7	E Buckley	72	
110	0141?4	FLYING TROVE 18 (S) (D Formosa) A L Moore (ire) 6-11-7	T Taaffe	86	
111	322132	HARRY'S BAR 41 (B,BF,S) (Miss W Harris) F Winter 5-11-7	B de Haan	85	
112	021110	HASSLE MONEY 34 (D,G,S) (Mrs B McKinney) R Fisher 5-11-7	M Meagher	90	
114	00104	HIGHWAY EXPRESS 28 (S) (M White) R J Hodges 6-11-7		59	
116	0302	KYLEMAKILL 5 (BF) (J Heaton) Mrs S Oliver 6-11-7	J Duggan	74	
117	130001	LACIDAR 33 (D,F,S) (Mrs E Seagrave) J H Johnson 7-11-7	G Landau	70	
118	11031	L'ANE ROUGE 14 (S) (Mrs D Grant) J H Scott (ire) 6-11-7	L Wyer	84	
119	130F12	LODDON LAD 21 (CD,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 5-11-7	R Dunwoody	80	
120	111	MIDSUMMER GAMBLE 32 (G,S) (D K Weld) D Weld (ire) 6-11-7	P Scudamore	94	
121	20-1140	MODTECH 89 (D,BF,S) (J Martin Engl J S Wilson 6-11-7	T G Dun	75	
122	00022	MONRITA 16 (Mrs M Curtis) Mrs M Rimell 5-11-7	S Morshead	54	
123	0-211	OLAN LAD 11 (S) (O Lehane) J Scott (ire) 7-11-7	J Short	94	
125	121	RANDOLPH PLACE 12 (G,S) (Edinburgh Woolen Mill Ltd) G Richards 6-11-7	P Tuck	75	
126	210311	ROBIN GOODFELLOW 34 (D,G,S) (Miss S Swire) G B Balding 6-11-7	G Bradley	89	
127	14	SCARLET RUNNER 19 (S) (Mrs S Smart) F Walwyn 5-11-7	S Shilston	72	
130	20213	SPARK OF PEACE 18 (D,G) (B Cahill) P Blockley 5-11-7	R J Beggan	84	
131	0/0-3211	SURPASS 22 (F,G,S) (R Tate) R Tate 7-11-7	Mr R Tate	83	
133	2122	THE WEST AWAKE 25 (S,S) (Mrs C Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-7	S Sherwood	87	
134	112	TIVIAN 37 (G,S) (Lady Matthews) I Matthews 7-11-7	M Perrett	73	
137	43-1021	WILD FLYER 21 (G) (G Thorn) R Lee 5-11-7	B Dowling	80	
138	4-33U12	WOLF OF BADENOCH 18 (BF,G) (W O'Gorman) J Mulhern (ire) 6-11-7	M Harrington	84	
139	110113	CINDIE GIRL 75 (D,G,S) (Mrs B Taylor) S Mellor 5-11-2	P Leach	85	
144	1421	LONGGHURST 23 (S,D,G,S) (J Terry) M Pipe 4-10-12			

BETTING: 3-1 Midsummer Gamble, 4-1 Bonanza Boy, 7-1 Flying Trove, 8-1 Olan Lad, 12-1 Robin Goodfellow, City Entertainer, 14-1 The West Awake, 16-1 Wolf Of Badenoch, Hassle Money, 20-1 Loddon Lad, 33-1 others

1986: TEN PLUS 6-11-7 K Mooney (5-2) F Walwyn 28 ran

FORM BONANZA BOY is one of the toughest novice hurdlers in training, and made it five out of six for this season when (11-13) a 12L winner from THE WEST AWAKE (11-13) at Chepstow (2m4f, £7026, soft, Feb 21, 13 ran) with KYLEMAKILL (11-7) 15 3/4L back in 6th. Previously BONANZA BOY (11-12) ran on well to beat Special Vintage (11-7) 2L at Newbury (2m4f120y, £5340, soft, Jan 2, 8 ran) with CINDIE GIRL (11-7) 5L back in 3rd and ROBIN GOODFELLOW (11-12) 17L further back in 5th. Last time out ROBIN GOODFELLOW (11-4) beat Cool Alone in a listed race at Huntingdon (2m4f, £5566, soft, Feb 12, 8 ran), KYLEMAKILL (11-4) 2 1/2L further back in 3rd, with HASSLE MONEY (11-2) and CITY ENTERTAINER (11-8) both well below form in rear. Prior to that run CITY ENTERTAINER (11-9) was one of the most impressive winners of the season over 3m120y at Newbury (£4002, good to soft, Jan 3, 20 ran) storming a good field by 12L with KYLEMAKILL (11-0) a never nearer 7th. Of the Irish, L'ANE ROUGE and MIDSUMMER GAMBLE seem to be the pick. L'ANE ROUGE (12-0) started to live up to some highly favourable gossip when an 8L winner from Flying Whisper (11-1) at Leopardstown (2m2f, £1173, yielding to soft, Mar 4, 8 ran). MIDSUMMER GAMBLE has an even better reputation and some top class from to go with it. Last time (11-7) he retained an unbeaten record with a 6L beating of Kissane (11-12) at Leopardstown (2m2f, £3367, yielding to soft, Feb 14, 7 ran). RANDOLPH PLACE is trained by Gordon Richards who won the first race yesterday. This one (11-9) beat State Jester (11-1) 3L at Haydock (2m, £1688, soft, Mar 6, 11 ran). The juvenile LONGGHURST (10-12) was an unchallenged 10L winner at Wolverhampton last time (2m4f, =826, good, Feb 23, 15 ran) and is open to further improvement.

Selection: BONANZA BOY

BBC 1

2.50 QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE (Grade I: £25,775: 2m) (8 runners)

202	132232	CAPTAIN DAWN 12 (CD,F,G) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 11-12-0	R Rowe	61	
203	402FF4	CHARCOAL WALLY 32 (D,F,G) (J Mursell) R Hodges 5-12-0		62	
204	141111	DESERT ORCHID 20 (D,F,G,S) (R Burridge) D Elsworth 8-12-0	C Brown	● 99	
207	41313P	LITTLE BAY 32 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Catherwood) G Richards 12-12-0	P Tuck	73	
208	230230	MILESIAN DANCER 25 (S) (I Dalgleish) W Fairgrieve 7-12-0	J Hansen	50	
209	12-1101	PEARLYMAN 32 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Shaw) J Edwards 8-12-0	P Scudamore	90	
210	11/1422	TOWNLEY STONE 32 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs M Townley) N Henderson 8-12-0	S Smith Eccles	80	
211	3-31412	VERY PROMISING 32 (C,D,F,G,S) (P Green) D Nicholson 9-12-0	R Dunwoody	83	

BETTING: 7-4 Desert Orchid, 5-2 Pearlyman, 3-1 Very Promising, 10-1 Townley Stone, 12-1 Little Bay, 20-1 Charcoal Wally, 33-1 Captain Dawn, 66-1 Milesian Dancer.

1986: BUCK HOUSE 8-12-0 T Carmody (5-2) M Morris 11 ran

FORM CAPTAIN DAWN needs a fast surface to show his best, best judged (11-0) on a creditable 4L 2nd to Far Bridge (10-12) at Ascot (2m, £6368, good, Nov 15, 5 ran). DESERT ORCHID has proved himself the best staying chaser of the season to date - notably when (11-10) beating Door Latch (11-10) an easy 15L at Kempton (3m, £31698, soft, Dec 26, 9 ran), previously (11-5) beat CHARCOAL WALLY (11-3) 12L, with LITTLE BAY (11-10) another 2 1/2L away in 3rd at Ascot (2m, Dec 13, 8 ran). The very impressive PEARLYMAN (11-7) came right back to his very best last time when beating TOWNLEY STONE (11-5) 7L, with LITTLE BAY (11-1) 3L further away in 3rd and CHARCOAL WALLY (10-7) another 3L back in 4th at Newbury (2m, £9524, soft, Feb 14, 6 ran). Previously LITTLE BAY (11-7) was not fully extended to beat Badsworth Boy (12-0) 5L, with PEARLYMAN (12-3) an 8th fence casualty and CHARCOAL WALLY (11-0) coming down 2 out when holding a slight advantage at Wetherby (2m, =9980, good to soft, Dec 27, 8 ran). VERY PROMISING (12-0) finished 8L 2nd to comfortable winner Forgive'N Forget (12-0) at Leopardstown (3m, soft) last time, previously (12-0) beat the high class Bobsline (12-0) 8L over the same course (2m4f, £32550, good, Dec 29, 7 ran).

Selection: DESERT ORCHID

BBC 1

3.30 CORAL GOLDEN HURDLE FINAL (Handicap: £14,460: 3m 1f) (31 runners)

302	13-0001	TABERNA LORD 39 (G,S) (R Jackson) A Wilson 6-11-9	L Harvey (4)	95	
304	132421	TERN 14 (F,G,S) (G Leatham) M H Easterby 5-11-3	R Morley (7)	92	
305	1-11212	WITHY BANK 19 (BF,G,S) (L Smith) M H Easterby 5-11-2	L Wyer	93	
306	11-P314	SPORTING MARINER 37 (BF,G,S) (Craydale Ltd) M Pipe 5-11-2	P Scudamore	88	
307	120010	BATTLEFIELD BAND 18 (F,G,S) (J Eddell) J Blundell 10-11-2	M Brennan	90	
308	2-01401	RED ROCKY 25 (G,S) (B Burrough) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-13	M Pitman	89	
309	111100	MISTER PITT 9 (F,G,S) (A Merna) T Bill 8-10-13	R Dunwoody	91	
310	023-040	BOB TISDALL 18 (S) (K Al-Said) J A Edwards 8-10-12	C Grant	95	
311	4-14320	ACCURACY 38 (F,S) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 6-10-10	A Charlton (7)	80	
312	F0U000	EMO FOREVER 12 (V,C,S) (A McCluskey) M H Easterby 7-10-9	R Beggan	87	
313	F-00301	CROIX DE GUERRE 15 (G,S) (J Shaw) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-7	G Bradley	96	
314	230-200	CELTIC TIME 21 (V,F,S) (Mrs R Dimmer) A J Wilson 10-10-6	C Cox	96	
315	000031	GALLANT BUCK 19 (B,C,S) (J Stott) D Elsworth 7-10-5	S Sherwood	93	
317	0004P3	WYE LEA 16 (F,G,S) (G Johnson) J Edwards 8-10-3	T Morgan	96	
318	P00-110	BRIGARONA 18 (F,G,S) (A Flannigan) Mrs G Reveley 6-10-3	P Niven	93	
320	P3-1420	HA'PENNY NAP 18 (F,G,S) (Mrs B Ramsden) K Stone 9-10-2	J D Davies (4)	● 99	
321	00-1003	COCAINE 34 (F,S) (C Holmes) C Holmes 9-10-0	K Burke (4)	88	
322	P44410	ASA SPADES 25 (S) (E Parker) D Barons 8-10-0	Miss T Davis (4)	97	
323	U1FFP4	CHARLIE'S COTTAGE 15 (G,S) (Mrs M Thorne) N Henderson 7-10-0	M Bowlby (4)	90	
325	00U22F	MR DIBBS 19 (B,S) (P Scammell) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-0	B de Haan	81	
326	003020	MISS NERO 13 (BF,F,S) (R Yates) C Jackson 6-10-0		87	
327	011100	EAMONS OWEN 12 (D,G,S) (Mrs A Trowbridge) Mrs S Oliver 10-10-0	Jacqui Oliver (7)	85	
328	0-01P21	MORE HOPEFUL 158 (F,G,S) (N King) C Tinstline 7-10-0	J Bryan	88	
329	0/P0000	ANEX 37 (B,G,S) (T Hayward) Mrs N Smith 10-10-0	R Rowe	82	
330	400400	DEW 18 (B,CD,F,S) (Kestrel Cases Ltd) R Holder 6-10-0	N Coleman	85	
331	0-40230	ROMAN DUSK 25 (G,S) (W Lockey) J Charlton 7-10-0	P Dennis (4)	90	
332	014122	BRONZE EFFIGY 55 (BF,S) (Mrs R Henriques) M Henriques 5-10-0	B Dowling (4)	84	
333	0-02001	DOWN FLIGHT 12 (S) (W Caldwell) T Caldwell 7-10-0	P Caldwell (7)	93	
334	F01/10P	BARWAR 30 (G,S) (Capt R Johnson) C Spares 9-10-0	S Keightley	77	
335	P000F0	POONA EXPRESS 5 (S) (W Sellers) J Parkes 6-10-0	J R Oakes (7)	69	
336	P34003	JUBILEE LIGHTS 28 (S) (B Gordon) P Pritchard 10-10-0	D Chinn	70	

BETTING: 9-1 Taberna Lord, 10-1 Withy Bank, 12-1 Croix De Guerre, Accuracy, 16-1 Gallant Buck, Red Rocky, Sporting Mariner, 20-1 Asa Spades, Brigarona, Eamons Owen, Emo Forever, 25-1 others

1986: MOTIVATOR 6-10-7 G McCourt (15-2 fav) M Ryan 31 ran

FORM TERN (11-10) produced his best effort last time when a 10L winner from Fer Savard (10-7) at Wetherby (3m, =3101, good to soft, Mar 4, 8 ran). Acts on firm ground. WITHY BANK (11-10) could find no more, but far from disgraced, when 8L 2nd to Bosun (10-3) at Doncaster (3m122y, £1676, good, Feb 28, 12 ran), with DEW (10-3) 23L back in 5th, BRIGARONA (10-13) 4L further away in 6th, and BATTLEFIELD BAND (12-1) soon beaten in 9th. EMO FOREVER is a course and distance winner, last time (10-13) finished 22L 5th to DOWN FLIGHT (10-0) at Haydock (2m4f, £1940, soft, Mar 6, 13 ran) with EAMONS OWEN (10-0) weakening into 9th. Another trainer with fancied runners is Jim Wilson. He saddles top weight TABERNA LORD (10-0) who landed a big gamble when a comfortable 8L winner at Sandown (2m5f75y, £7961, good, Feb 7, 14 ran) with BARWAR (10-0) weakening into 9th, and the nowadays unreliable ACCURACY (10-1) refusing to race. His other runner, CELTIC TIME, vesored for the first time today, looks well handicapped on a (11-3) 2 1/2L 2nd to Trouvere (10-5) at Wolverhampton (2m4f, £2258, good, Dec 27, 19 ran) with WYE LEA (11-3) 8L back in 6th and MISS NERO (10-8) another 5L back in 6th. Jenny Pitman's CROIX DE GUERRE (11-7) gained a lot of admirers with a 10L beating of Trouvere (10-12) at Nottingham (3m, £3312, good, Mar 3, 3 ran). HA'PENNY NAP was below best last time and better judged on (11-3) a 1 2/L 2nd to Peter Martin (11-10) at Ayr (2m4f, £1874, good to soft, Feb 13, 8 ran). BRONZE EFFIGY (11-4) ran a good race at Cheltenham on penultimate start when 8L 2nd to Loddon Lad (11-8) on New Year's Day (2m4f, £2987, soft, 17 ran).

Selection: TERN

BBC 2

4.05 SUN ALLIANCE CHASE (Grade I: £27,740: 3m) (20 runners)

401	4-121B2	AGAINST THE GRAIN 35 (D,G,S) (J Mawle) D Nicholson 8-11-4	R Dunwoody	88	
402	0-111FF	ALKEPA 19 (D,BF,S) (J Burgess) G Moore 7-11-4	M Hammond	88	
403	443141	BRITTANY BOY 30 (J Glynn) K Hitchmough (ire) 8-11-4	T Taaffe	80	
404	21UF31	CAVVIES CLOWN 18 (G,S) (Mrs J Othrani) D Elsworth 7-11-4	R Arnott	88	
405	1-0402F	CHEEKY RUPERT 13 (F) (T Wragg) D L Williams 7-11-4	R Crank	68	
407	0/0432P-F	DIXTON HOUSE 16 (G,S) (P Hill) J A Edwards 8-11-4	T Morgan	54	
408	004F4-3	FRIENDLY HENRY 28 (R Wright) J Fox 7-11-4	S Moore	56	
410	F4302/P	GRAGARA PRIDE 28 (F,S) (J Poynton) P O'Connor 10-11-4	J R Oakes	50	
411	P0/3001	HAL'S JOY 4 (S) (G Palmer) M Pipe 8-11-4	P Scudamore	82	
412	102114	KILDIMO 35 (C,BF,F,G,S) (Lady Harris) G B Balding 7-11-4	G Bradley	86	
413	0F21D3	LASTOFTHEBROWNIES 18 (D,BF,G,S) (M Smurfit) M F Morris (ire) 7-11-4	N Madden	78	
414	31F121	MASTERPLAN 12 (D,G,S) (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 10-11-4	S Morshead	82	
415	P-111UU	MIDNIGHT MADNESS 102 (F,S) (D Bloomfield) D Bloomfield 9-11-4	B Wright	68	
416	121111	MR FRISK 25 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs H Duffey) K Bailey 8-11-4	A Jones	● 90	
417	1F1F21	PLAYSCHOOL 25 (F,G,S) (R Cottle) D Barons 9-11-4	P Nicholls	93	
418	F83311	REGULAR TIME 18 (S) (K Martin) S Kirk (ire) 5-11-4	M Flynn	90	
419	04-8110	SHEPHERD'S HYMN 19 (F,G,S) (H Grain) P Blockley 6-11-4		51	
420	P11111	TAWRIDGE 35 (D,G,S) (L Ames) A Turnell 7-11-4	Steve Knight	92	
421	03/0-110	THE HACIENDEROS 13 (G,S) (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 8-11-4	D Murphy	70	
422	00/0021	TORYMORE GREEN 15 (G) (I Anderson) J Webber 8-11-4	G Mernagh	69	

BETTING: 5-1 Mr Frisk, 6-1 Tawridge, 7-1 Playschool, Kildimo, 8-1 Regular Time, 12-1 Cavvies Clown, Alkepa, 14-1 Masterplan, 16-1 Hal's Joy, 20-1 others.

1986: CROSS MASTER 9-11-4 R Crank (16-1) T Bill 30 ran

FORM ALKEPA would have won by at least 12L last time but for falling at the last. Excellent winning form includes (12-3) a 2L beating of Mick's Star (11-9) at Market Rasen (3m, £2376, soft, Dec 26, 13 ran). CAVVIES CLOWN is as game as they come and clearly enjoys his racing. Last time (11-10) beat Foyle Fisherman (10-12) at Stratford (2m6f, £4409, soft, Feb 28, 5 ran). TAWRIDGE is another game performer, and proved his class with a (11-12) 3L win over AGAINST THE GRAIN (11-8) at Ascot (3m, £10092, good, Feb 11, 5 ran) with CAVVIES CLOWN (11-12) a length further back in 3rd, and KILDIMO (11-8) a very disappointing last of the finishers. Previously, KILDIMO (11-0) had looked a very exciting prospect on chasing debut, beating PLAYSCHOOL (11-8) 3/4L here at Cheltenham (3m1f, £3876, soft, Dec 31, 6 ran). Since then PLAYSCHOOL has gone from strength to strength and last time (11-7) ran out an easy 8L winner from Lewesdon Prince (11-7) at Chepstow (2m4f, £8835, soft, Feb 21, 8 ran). MASTERPLAN (11-13) is open to further improvement on an easy 30L win over Backlog (11-13) at Haydock (3m, £3004, soft, Mar 6, 7 ran). MR FRISK is another tough customer and is the only one of the major contenders to have proved himself in senior handicap company. Last time (10-2) returned from a lay off to beat Strath Leader (10-7) 12L at Nottingham (3m, £4138, good, Feb 21, 4 ran). REGULAR TIME (11-4) looks the best of the Irish judged on a 12L beating of Weather The Storm (11-7) at Punchestown (2m4f, £10800, yield, Feb 28, 8 ran).

Selection: MR FRISK

4.40 NATIONAL HUNT CHASE CHALLENGE CUP (Amateurs: £10,521: 4m) (31 runners)

501	46-0111	CEART GO LEOR 39 (S) (P Courtney) Miss S Finn (ire) 7-12-7	J Queally	77	
502	001411	FADA 23 (G,S) (B Broad) J Bosley 10-12-7	C Pilgrim	70	
503	102	FEARLESS LEADER 130 (G) (Mrs C O'Brien) E Bolger (ire) 6-12-7	E Bolger	95	
504	011P0	GLENSIDE JERRY 25 (G) (O Jones) G B Balding 7-12-7	G Oxley	84	
505	4P4011	MIGHTY MARK 25 (G) (Mrs F Walton) F Walton 8-12-7	J Walton	91	
506	301130	SPARTAN ORIENT 6 (G,S) (H Geddes) J S King 11-12-7	T Thomson Jones	80	
507	1F34FU	BALLYMULLISH 19 (G) (Mrs L Pinto) J Gifford 7-12-4	T Grantham	86	
508	U3-U21	BRIEF BARNIE 12 (S) (Mrs J Griffith) Mrs J Griffith 9-12-4	J Griffith	89	
509	0/1F	PUNCHEN VIEW 16 (BF,S) (A1 Paper Pic) M Oliver 7-12-4	M Armytage	70	
510	F0F3TP	NETHER WALLOP 19 (S) (Miss S Webber) J Webber 10-12-4	J Sharp	76	
511	204312	THE THIRSTY FARMER 49 (B,S) (Mrs S King) R Holder 8-12-4	Miss G Armytage	82	
512	00-2232	WICKED UNCLE 41 (Mrs B Samuel) F Winter 6-12-4	C Brooks	76	
513	2-PPPPP	ANOTHER DRAGON 23 (S) (Mrs W Garton) M Pipe 11-12-0	Miss H Handel	—	
514	P00P-FF	AUFWIEDERSEHEN PET 9 (Top Industrial Mtg Ltd) P Davis 7-12-0	R White	—	
515	23/03-4	BUCK'S MILL 34 (S) (Mrs S Foale) Mrs S Foale 9-12-0	C Down	85	
516	P2P303	CLONROCHE GAZETTE 19 (A Green) Miss M Bell 7-12-0	D Costello	● 99	
517	P-0F30F	DOCK BRIEF 14 (Mrs B Dolan) M Pipe 6-12-0	R Bellamy	74	
518	0/33302P	GENERAL SANDY 16 (Miss A Chitern-Hunt) J Bosley 9-12-0	A Hill	58	
519	P34-046	HARRINGWORTH 9 (BF) (C Millington) J Millington 12-12-0	C Millington	83	
520	323F22	LET HIM BY 16 (BF) (T Fanning) D Nicholson 7-12-0	P Webber	80	
521	0P32P0	LE VULGAN 14 (S) (R Redmond) A Turnell 7-12-0	J Berry	72	
522	40U002	LUCKY VINTAGE 32 (Miss M Preece) P Pritchard 10-12-0	J Pritchard	73	
523	42000F	OVER THE ROAD 16 (T Costello) T Costello (ire) 6-12-0	T Costello	70	
524	344	OYDE HILLS 16 (Mrs G Bletsoe) K Morgan 8-12-0	J Osborne	84	
525	4P-03FU	PROVERITY 19 (Mrs P Shaw) J A Edwards 6-12-0	M Richards	—	
526	P24/	RED SHAH 735 (G Harwood) G Harwood 10-12-0	Miss A Harwood	86	
527	210223	TEN IN HAND 32 (S) (J Ciechanowski) M Hinchliffe 7-12-0	Miss S Lawrence	82	
528	330404	TULLOMAGRANGE 16 (P McCourt) P O'Connor 8-12-0	A Martin	62	
529	0-UP0	WOOD BY WOOD 13 (C Bravery) C Bravery 9-12-0	M Bradstock	—	
530	243P3U	WOODSIDE ROAD 16 (Prowting Homes) D Nicholson 7-12-0	J Fanshawe	79	
531	PF3PU2	VALMAI 15 (R Ledger) R Ledger 8-11-9	Mrs N Ledger	87	

BETTING: 9-4 Fearless Leader, 5-1 Let Him By, 6-1 Ceart Go Leor, 7-1 Clonroche Gazette, 10-1 Ten In Hand, 14-1 Brief Barnie, Wicked Uncle, Ballymullish, 20-1 others

1986: OMERTA 6-12-7 L Wyer (9-4 fav) J Scott 22 ran

FORM CEART GO LEOR (10-12) completed a hat-trick when beating Newtown Boy (10-6) a length at Navan (3m, £1380, yielding, Feb 7, 7 ran). FADA (11-12) ran on well to beat Jimmy Edwards (11-6) 2L at Fontwell (2m2f, £1727, good, Feb 23, 16 ran). The big Irish fancy FEARLESS LEADER (11-2) was far from disgraced on latest start when 1 1/2L 2nd to Bankers Benefit (11-6) at Fairyhouse (2m6f, =6520, yielding, Feb 2, 11 ran). MIGHTY MARK (10-0) best judged for the purposes of this event on a 15L beating of Ansuro (10-0) at Kelso (3m4f, £2310, good, Feb 6, 10 ran). BRIEF BARNIE (12-0) stayed on well from 2 out to beat Al Borak (12-0) 8L at Haydock (3m1f, =190, soft, Mar 6, 8 ran). CLONROCHE GAZETTE (10-7) stepped up on previous from when 8L 2nd to Earls Brig (11-12) at Kelso (3m4f, £4766, good to soft, Feb 27, 10 ran). LET HIM BY (11-1) one paced from 2 out when 12L 2nd to Ratlin' Jack (11-1), with GENERAL SANDY (11-1) pulled up, at Leicester (3m, £1348, good to soft, Mar 2, 15 ran).

Selection: FEARLESS LEADER

5.15 MILDMAY OF FLETE CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£12,679: 2m 4f) (18 runners)

601	240210-	THE TSAREVICH 347 (CD,F,G,S) (Maj I Straker) N Henderson 11-11-10	J White	94	
602	1-F134P	VON TRAPPE 82 (CD,F,G,S) (P Scammell) Mrs J Pitman 10-11-7	B de Haan	96	
603	11-R221	CLARA MOUNTAIN 21 (D,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 8-10-11	H Davies	96	
604	132103	MALYA MAL 32 (D,F,G,S) (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin) F Winter 8-10-11		95	
605	011242	REPINGTON 32 (D,F,G,S) (J Gilman) N Crump 9-10-11	C Hawkins	95	
606	1-10124	BISHOPS YARN 32 (D,BF,S) (British Thoroughbred Pic) G Balding 8-10-11	R Garrat (7)	98	
608	21-F240	ROADSTER 32 (CD,S) (C Nash) C Nash 11-10-9	R Dunwoody	95	
609	0/03241	SEA MERCHANT 14 (C,F,G,S) (T McDonagh) W A Stephenson 10-10-7 (3ex)	R Lamb	● 99	
610	F0-1321	FUDGE DELIGHT 32 (D,G,S) (M Dorey) O Sherwood 9-10-6	S Sherwood	95	
612	3F4001	OUR FUN 39 (D,F,S) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 10-10-4	R Rowe	91	
614	2-11211	JOINT SOVEREIGNTY 95 (D,F,G,S) (F Doyle) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-10-4	M Dwyer	90	
615	217011	WELSH OAK 18 (D,F,G,S) (G Amey) D Gandolfo 7-10-4 (3ex)	S Smith Eccles	93	
617	132123	CENTRE ATTRACTION 21 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs V Mason) G Richards 8-10-0	P Tuck	93	
618	211213	GEE-A 22 (D,BF,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 8-10-0	Miss G Armytage (4)	88	
619	F01-002	LEWESDON PRINCE 25 (F,S) (T Frost) S Christian 10-10-0	R Beggan	92	
623	1031-P0	GEMBRIDGE JUPITER 39 (F,G,S) (A Carver) C Tristine 9-10-0	J Bryan	84	
625	2-01133	MAMNA REEF 39 (D,G,S) (K Al-Said) J A Edwards 9-10-0	C Grant	81	
626	1230FU	WILD ARGOSY 9 (V,BF,F,G) (J Davidson) T Bill 8-10-0	Mr J Osborne (7)	62	

BETTING: 5-1 Fudge Delight, 6-1 Joint Sovereignty, 7-1 Welsh Oak, Clara Mountain, 10-1 The Tsarevich, Sea Merchant, 12-1 Centre Attraction, Malya Mal, 16-1 others.

1986: THE TSAREVICH 10-11-5 J White (8-1) N Henderson 16 ran

FORM THE TSAREVICH (11-5) won this race fast year when beating ROADSTER (10-5) 1/2L (£12250, good, Mar'86, 15 ran). CLARA MOUNTAIN (11-1) back to best when beating Ataraho (10-1) 2L, with CENTRE ATTRACTION (10-7) another 1 1/2L back in 3rd at Warwick (2m4f, £3974, good, Feb 25, 6 ran). SEA MERCHANT (11-12) came right back to best when beating Kevinsfort (11-4) 20L at Wetherby (2m, £2966, good to soft, Mar 4, 5 ran). FUDGE DELIGHT (10-1) stayed on in good style to beat REPINGTON (10-8) 5L, with MALYA MAL (10-5) a neck away in 3rd, BISHOPS YARN (10-8) another length back in 4th and LEWESDON PRINCE (10-1) a further 10L back and a below par 5th at Newbury (2m4f, £3915, soft, Feb 14, 10 ran). WELSH OAK (10-4) continued his improvement with an easy 5L beating of Wily Yeoman (10-1) at Kempton (2m4f, £3033, soft, Feb 28, 4 ran). LEWESDON PRINCE (11-7) best judged on latest start when 8L 2nd to Playschool (11-7) at Chepstow (2m4f, £8835, soft, Feb 21, 8 ran).

Selection: SEA MERCHANT

Festival specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per Cent
P Mullins (ire)	4	21	19.0
F Walwyn	6	35	17.1
F Winter	7	49	14.3
N Henderson	6	43	14.0

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per Cent
S Shilston	3	11	27.3
R Earnshaw	4	17	23.5
D Browne	3	20	15.0
S S Eccles	5	41	12.2
G Bradley	3	32	9.4
F Berry	3	36	8.3

NEWTON ABBOT

Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 Model Lady.
2.35 Comedy Lane.
3.10 Grand Celebration.
3.45 Dart Over.
4.20 Dudley's Star.
4.55 Shoutitout.

Going: soft

2.0 HARRY HAWK MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £1,079: 2m 150yd) (16 runners)

1	P	ADMIRAL'S DANCE 6 (B) (Mrs J Bennett) J Bennett 6-11-5	—	—
10	00	MANDRAKI SHUFFLE 19 (Mrs J Dibben) J Old 5-11-5	—	—
13	P	SPARTAN SOLDIER 8 (Mrs J Breese) C O'Neill 6-11-5	P Grassick (7)	—
20	P	GOBLINS THIMBLES 34 (R Barber) R Barber 8-11-1	—	—
23	200	MODEL LADY 8 (S) (Niland & Treacy Construction Co Ltd) C O'Neill 5-11-1	M Caswell	● 99
24		PARBROOK FLIGHT (D Hancock) Mrs V Hancock 7-11-1	—	—
25	0-	SHENLEY'S LADY 361 (P Donoghue) M Pipe 6-11-1	R Atkins	—
27		GO GO JOE (Mrs S Wakely) P Wakely 4-10-13	—	—
28		GUYMYSON (M Pipe) M Pipe 4-10-13	NON-RUNNER	—
29		MOEL FAMMAU (Miss J Walwyn) S Christian 4-10-13	A Mulholland (7)	—
30		NASKRACKER (C Barnes) M Pipe 4-10-13	J Lower (4)	—
31	40R	QUICKEN THE BID 6 (H Perry) N Mitchell 4-10-13	Mr T Mitchell (7)	—
33		ROARING SPARK (G Ball) W G Turner 4-10-13	Tracy Turner (7)	—
37	0	THE QUIETSTAN 23 (S

RACING



Third time champion: Steve Smith Eccles on See You Then after winning the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham yesterday (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

See You Then finds that bit of class to hold off Flatterer

By Alan Lee

You Then joined the rials at Cheltenham yes- and, in the process, paid n indelible tribute to one greatest training perfor- s in National Hunt

third successive triumph Waterford Crystal Cham- urdle was his toughest in any ways, not merely ed in the agonising battle famous hill to hold off the ican invader, Flatterer, by ngths, but also in the ged and often painful aign by Nick Henderson is backroom staff to get o the race at all.

gued by problems with the pion's suspect legs, com- ded by an irritating corn subsequent inflammation, erson's admirable patience almost came to nothing, as he revealed in a frantic er's enclosure. "When the weather came in January I ght we were done for. Even y, he wasn't as straight as I d have wanted."

Steve Smith Eccles, who has ridden the horse in each of his Cheltenham victories, con- firmed his trainer's view. "I left my challenge late to conserve his stamina but he still blew up halfway up the hill. It was a heart-stopping moment."

Smith Eccles, the most vivid character on the jockeys' circuit, is not normally one for much emotion. He leaves the worried frowns and the sleepless nights to Henderson, who seems per- versely to thrive on them. But, after this record equalling win, he confessed: "I got a funny feeling in the pit of my stomach coming back to that reception. The crowd really moved me."

They had indeed flocked to Prestbury Park to see if See You Then could match the achieve- ment of Hattons Grace, Sir Ken and Persian War. But not everyone shared the jockey's infectious confidence and See You Then, odds-on favourite for days beforehand, drifted to 11-10 at the off.

Smith Eccles faced the usual early fight to contain the champion's enthusiasm but soon settled him in midfield behind the pacemakers Cor- poral Clinger and Barnbrook Again. Flatterer, who arrived from Maryland only two days before the race and was the subject of a huge professional gamble, tracked the leaders in third place.

At the top of the hill, See You Then was brought skilfully closer, Smith Eccles taking him wide "to guarantee a clear run." Barnbrook Again, representing leading trainer David Elsworth, was now in front but it seemed only a matter of time.

The decisive challenge was delivered at the final hurdle, the great seven-year-old pricking his ears in recognition of past deeds and quickening clear of the outclassed and the tiring. Then, momentarily, anxiety intruded as Jerry Fishback, the veteran once-retired American rider, drove Flatterer ever closer to an outrageous coup.

"My horse's class got him through," the winning jockey said later. "I couldn't hear or see Flatterer but I could sense he was close by the noise of the crowd. I was a bit worried but the old horse kept finding more. He'll be back next year for the record."

SmithEccles was keen to stress the element of teamwork, from the trainer himself, head lad Corky Browne, the horse's own loyal lad Glyn Foster, and through to experienced Lambourn vet Frank Mahon, who was on hand yesterday for the climax of "one of the finest training and PR achievements I have known in 30 years of racing."

Henderson, whose dealings with all the many media in- quiries has been uniformly help- ful, added: "My sadness is that I cannot run the horse very often. Tendons, suspensories, joints — you name them, he's had all the problems. I just have to con- centrate on this one race. Noth- ing else really matters."

Asked if he would return for a fourth attempt next March, Henderson grinned and said: "You never know — but that would mean I've got another 365 days of worry."

Dunwoody quits as Oliver's jockey

By Alan Lee

ie West Tip saga entered a episode yesterday when a ked and hurt Richard woody announced that he not ride again for trainer ael Oliver.

unwoody was privately ished to be told by Oliver he would be sacked from rized ride on Grand Na- l hero West Tip unless he ered the horse in rrow's Cheltenham Gold

he felt morally committed ing Charter Party for his ing trainer David Nichol- the Gold Cup, Dunwoody ow reluctantly accepted e will never again ride the which, last April, made mous.

23-year-old jockey had ained a dignified silence squabble but yesterday he bliged to speak out. In a ed statement, he revealed: rary to other reports, I will not continue to ride for Michael Oliver."

Reacting to the news, Oliver, who had previously said he expected more loyalty from Dunwoody, replied: "It is a free world. Richard can do what he likes but I was under the impression he was riding for me at Wolverhampton on Friday."

Dunwoody, still plainly upset over the affair when he arrived at Cheltenham yesterday, added: "I am very shocked by Mr Oliver's decision. I would have been able to ride West Tip in all his other races but I felt obliged by loyalty to my boss Mr Nicholson to ride Charter Party on Thursday.

"It's not pleasant to be ac- cused of lacking loyalty as I don't think I owe Michael Oliver anything in this situa- tion. I had told him some time ago that Charter Party would run and I have simply done what I thought was right."

Cheltenham, where budgets are blown not televised

utting money in its place - the hands of the bookies



Simon Barnes at Cheltenham

get Day is traditionally of ritualized and an- d avarice. It starts with Chancellor's morning and then follows his sion with the great and relic, the Very Old Bag. omes the speech, and a that has been filling its with petrol and buying by the crate now starts ig the pennies gained e pennies lost. The day at celebration of all that best in the human spirit.

here was a small corner gland that had been ed from all the gloomy eckoning and petty g of Budget Day. A here a nation's respect ighty money was under st severe threat: a place avarice had been set in e. The place was ham, and at Chelten- was not Budget Day at was St Patrick's Day. he first day of the l.

udget Day, the country nually demonstrates is totally in thrall to But as Humpty said: "The question h is to be master? That is all." At Cheltenham, they know how to put money in its place. For the Festival is a great celebration of how the human spirit can conquer even cash: The people fling it away in buckets. The Irish save all year for these three days, and when they get here, they live like kings, drink like heroes, tip like Gods and gamble like conquerors.

In the bus to Cheltenham, we had a chorus of The Rose of Tralee before the wheels started turning, and the pubs were not even open. Indeed, the singers, with great bushes of St Patrick's Day shamrock dripping from hats and lapels, were not even drunk. They were simply happy: sober and happy. I hoped that only one of these conditions would be altered by the day's event. Galmoy won the fourth for Ireland, so life cannot seem all that bad this morning.

But, I hear you say, racing is all about money. True. Surely, then, racing is in fact a vast outbreak of mass avariciousness, an unsightly rush to get something for nothing? But this is wrong. Betting is mostly about losing. Indeed, I am sure that if you were to walk through Tattersall's today carrying a large green bin and a notice that read: "Please do not put money in this bin," you'd be a millionaire before the fifth race.

Betting at Cheltenham is a mass celebration of anti-av- arice, and an expression of total contempt for the Prot- estant ethics of careful hus- bandry. People shove, push and fight like fury in their efforts to get rid of the stuff, to force their tenners into the ever-willing palms of the book- ies, while above their heads the tictac men perform their Balinese finger-ballet as they direct the never-ending flood of money from shamrock- wearing punters to Honest Solly and Co in the ring.

BASKETBALL: OLDHAM AND RHONDDA PRESENT CREDENTIALS FOR JOINING BREAKAWAY LEAGUE

Worthy candidates for admission

By Nicholas Harling

If part of the criteria for admission to next season's breakaway basket- ball league is organization off court and flair on it, then a perfect example of each could be found at the luxurious Oldham Sports Centre last Saturday.

As second division champions, Team Walsall had already staked their claim to inaugural membership of the premier division. It was the credentials of the two clubs which finished below them, Oldham Celtics and Just Rentals Rhondda, that must have impressed the 1,000 crowd which had the fortune to witness the National Trophy final which they disputed.

Oldham, more by the excellence of their promotion than by the standard of their play, looked worthy can- didates. No less so, Rhondda if their level of performance was any gear- antee of election. Their 134-111 win not only earned them the trophy, it brought emphatic revenge for the two defeats, by 20 points and 21, they had suffered in league matches against their opponents this season.

There are distinct parallels between the clubs. Both have come a long way in a short time, rely to a large extent on Americans they are desperate to keep, and are on the look-out for sponsorship, particularly now that the new league's interview panel may need convincing that they will not fold as soon as they have joined.

The development of the Oldham Sports Centre has assisted the Lan- cashire club's cause, even though the club's original sponsors, Ionian Travel, went bankrupt as soon as they had parted with the first instalment of £1,000 in a £7,000 deal. Oldham's overdraft of £8,000 was secured against the home of their coach, Yaro Martyniuk but the club's decision against folding was vindicated when a donation of £6,000 from the Oldham Leisure Services cut their debt to £2,000.

Without the fanaticism of Martyniuk, the son of Ukrainian refugees, or the business acumen of his fellow director, Pat O'Donnell, Oldham would certainly not have been formed, may not have survived, or indeed ultimately have thrived to the extent that this season has yielded a £4,000 profit. "We feel we've done well for a second division club," Martyniuk said. "We've had to struggle to make ends meet. No one tipped us for promotion so we've come from outsiders."

The recruitment of two lively Americans, Cleave Lewis and Kenny Cook from Fresno State University, California, has helped Oldham's drive towards honours, although Lewis hardly felt at his best in any respect on Saturday. "I knew we were in trouble when he was being violently sick in the toilet while I was giving my half-time talk," said Martyniuk, whose side were trailing 62-56 at the time.

Was he nervous. "Hell no, just ill" Lewis replied. "I've played in front of 21,000 at Madison Square Garden." With Cook unable "to throw a pea into the ocean," the consequence was that Rhondda's two Americans, La Verne Evans and Dave Lawrence, were able to embellish the final with their individual artistry, Lawrence's backhand dunks being worth the admission on their own.

First known as Ton and Gelli Boys Club, Rhondda have taken only six years to stand on the threshold of the elite. The first Welsh club to enter the National League or to win the Trophy, a competition open to second division clubs, it has taken them only one season in the second division to enhance their claims for a higher status, the single drawback being that the three-year £55,000 sponsorship deal with Just Rentals has now expired. Finding a successor should not be beyond the Reynolds brothers, Ian, the president, and Jimmy, the coach, without whose devotion the club, like Oldham, would not be where they are now.

● Charlton and Blackburn have been given permission to call off their league matches the day before they meet in the Full Members Cup final at Wembley on Sunday, March 29.

ROWING

Unhappy day for Oxford

By Jim Railton

It was a bizzare day on the Tideway yesterday with Oxford and Cambridge attempting to make their final preparations for the Boat Race a week on Saturday (12.15). The day started with the Oxford presi- dent, Donald Macdonald, of- ficially challenging Cambridge's Stephen Peel before Oxford went out with a bandaged substitute on board, came back and changed their oars. Mean- while, Cambridge were making arrangements for their oarsmen, Richard Spink, to receive hos- pital treatment at Reading in the afternoon.

The challenge for the Beef- eater Gin Trophy was made on the foreshore of the embank- ment at Putney with the silver statuette delicately poised on a table at 8.30 in the morning and looking out of place. Beefeater Gin is sponsoring the Boat Race for at least three years for £330,000. It is a very welcome sponsorship in difficult times for all universities.

Oxford then went into action with the Cambridge graduate, Richard Hull, out and still under the weather and another Cambridge man, Gavin Screaton, as substitute. For the first time Oxford had more Blues on board than their reserve crew, Isis. Screaton emphasised his presence on board the Oxford boat with his hands strapped with bandages.

Screaton, in his final year of medical studies at Oxford, volunteered his services to the Oxford reserves following the American walkout at Oxford. His hands were strapped yes- terday morning because of blis- ters brought on by having to row so late in the season. Oxford still has its heroes.

Oxford had an unhappy out- ing in the morning burying the carbon-fibre oars too deep and out of time in the water. Oxford returned to Putney eventually and changed their oars. Oxford are still experimenting in more ways than one.

Oxford went out with wooden carbon fibre reinforced oars in the afternoon. They looked fluent and almost happy. Like a magician's rabbit out of a hat Hull was back on board al- though rowing gently. Cam- bridge too boated in the afternoon with a full crew. There is as always in the Boat Race psychological warfare afoot

OXFORD: H M Pelham (St Edward's, Oxford and Christ Church) bow, P Gash (Dartmouth RS and Oriel), R Hull (Wymondham, Robinson, Cambridge Oriel), *D H M Macdonald (Morrison's Academy and Mansfield), T A D Cadoux-Hudson (St Mary's Hospital and New College), G B Stewart (Bournemouth and Wadham), A D Ward (King's, Chester and Oriel), P F Gleason (St Marin's, Brent- wood and Hertford) stroke, A D Lobbenberg (Shrewsbury and Balliol) cox.

CAMBRIDGE: *I R Clarke (Stourport HS and Fitzwilliam) bow, R A B Spink (Sherborne and Downing), N J Grundy (St Edward's, Oxford and Jesus), *J S Pew (Stanford University and Trinity), J R Garman (Shrewsbury and LMBC), *P H Broughton (Southampton University and Magdalene), *S M Peel (King's, Chester and Downing), M J Brittin (Hampton and Robinson) stroke, J M Wolfson (Eton and Peterhouse) cox.

● Today's outings: Oxford 9.30 and 2; Cambridge 10.30 and 3 (from Putney).
* A Blue

FOOTBALL

A concrete theatre waits for Dundee United's drama

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Barcelona

Dundee United will tonight step into an experience that they will remember either as a dream or as nightmare. It depends on how they respond to the awe- some setting of the second leg of their UEFA Cup quarter-final here against Barcelona. It could inspire them. It could intimi- date them.

The magnificent Nou Camp, in which the opening fixture of the 1982 World Cup was staged, is arguably the most imposing arena in Europe. To illustrate its size, the number of season ticket holders is more than four times larger than the crowd that could be accommodated inside United's own home.

Tannadice Park is a tin shack in comparison with the vast concrete theatre that can house an audience of up to 125,000 spectators. Jim McLean, United's manager, recognizes that the location represents a potential problem for his play- ers, who hold a 1-0 lead, but he trusts that they will react favourably.

As he looked up towards the towering terraces yesterday, he said: "If we can't perform here, then we don't deserve to be here. Anyway, we are about to be- come the envy of every club in Britain. I know they would all love to be walking out into this."

Yet three of his senior players — Bannon, Narey, and Sturrock — are not certain to do so because of injury problems though Narey and Sturrock are expected to recover, which is just as well. No one in the squad is more experienced than Narey, the captain, and no one carried more threat in the first leg than Sturrock.

Bannon could also be fit in time to be included in a line-up that has yet to be unveiled. Nor has Barcelona's, amid specula- tion, which has become increas- ingly customary, about the possible exclusion of Hughes. Terry Venables accepts that the Welsh international forward is under "great pressure".

He would prefer to select him as Lineker's partner. Barcelona's manager is aware that Hughes has "perhaps tried too hard over the last few weeks. He is just going through the kind of spell that everybody suffers. That is not a problem, though. We can work it out."

The overall contribution of Hughes a fortnight ago was significantly more productive than that of Lineker. All four of the opportunities he took during England's victory in Madrid were appreciably easier than the chance he missed in Scotland. It was embarrassing. It could yet prove costly as well.

So could the offence that was committed later by Carrasco, which earned him a caution then and subsequently suspen- sion now. His runs down either flank were as troublesome for United as those of Sturrock and Gallacher were for Barcelona, particularly during the opening stages of each half.

After Gallacher's sliced 'fluke' had put United ahead within a couple of minutes, Venables admitted that his side, beaten 4- 0 at home four days previously, were "on the edge of disaster." He was encouraged by their recovery and the psychological advantage has since shifted towards the Spaniards.

While United were scram- bling for survival in the quarter- finals of the Scottish Cup last week, Barcelona were regaining their position as the Spanish League leaders, at least tem- porarily, to the delight of their supporters. In their eyes, as Venables points out, the domes- tic trophy is substantially bigger than a Continental cup.

Their view could work in United's favour. They will not be unduly disappointed if their attempt to reach the last four of the UEFA Cup for the first time takes place in a ground that is less than half-full and appears to their hosts to be almost empty.

St Etienne players face trial over 'slush fund'

Lyon (Agencies) — Michel Platini, the French captain, is one of 11 players to go on trial in connection with an illegal slush fund at his former club, St Etienne, magistrates decided yesterday.

A Lyon court rejected an appeal by the local public pros- ecutor to dismiss the trial of the players, plus nine officials, for their alleged part in a 20 million franc (£2.1m) slush fund scandal between 1978 and 1982.

Investigations began in Octo- ber 1983 after fraud squad officers were called into the club to investigate financial irregu- larities. A report from Patrick Demure, the examining mag- istrate who prepared the case, recommended that 20 players, plus a the club officials, should stand trial.

Nine players were sub- sequently exonerated, although another two are still under investigation.

Platini, aged 31, who left St Etienne for the Italian club Juventus in 1983, is accused of illegally receiving FFr880,000 (£91,000), but Jean Francois Larios, his former international team-colleague, allegedly re- ceived the biggest payment — FFr1.1m (£114,500) — from the fund. Other players involved include Patrick Battiston, the French World Cup defender, and Bernard Lacombe, another former international.

The footballers were accused of accepting the cash payments from the slush fund between 1978-82 in order to avoid paying



Platini: Illegal pay row

income tax. The money allegedly came from ticket sales omitted from the club's official accounts. Roger Rocher, the club president at the time and the ring-leader of the fraud, was jailed for five months in November 1983.

The public prosecutor argued that the players did not know the money came from a fraudulent source and that they had sub- sequently sorted out their po- sitions with the income tax authorities.

But the court ruled that they could not have been unaware of the illegality of the dealings. The trial date has been set for May 17, although the accused can appeal against the decision.

GOLF

Caldwell's initial cup move

By Patricia Davies

Carole Caldwell has the right initials for someone wanting a place in next year's Curtis Cup and she is making her move early. She and her partner, Katharine Harridge, had a three-under-par 70 in the first round of the Avia Foursomes over the Blue Course at the Berkshire yesterday to lead by one shot from the young English pairing of Susan Moorcraft and Tracey Hammond and by two from the Irish Curtis Cup duo of Mary McKenna and Claire Hourihane.

Mrs Caldwell, now 37, last made the Curtis Cup team in 1980 but since then has been pretty well occupied by two young children and a husband. However, she says: "I'd really love to get on the team at Royal St George's next June and over the winter I've been practising hard and keeping the body in shape. This season's results are bound to be a big factor in the selection of the team to defend against the Americans."

She and Miss Harridge, who is the assistant secretary at her home club, Cowdray Park in Sussex, are both in the England international squad but are partnering each other for the first time, largely because Mrs Caldwell's regular partner is pregnant. It has proved a happy accident so far with Mrs Cald- well and Miss Harridge having six birdies in their first competitive round together. They also had three one-over-pars but Mrs Caldwell ensured they finished on a happy note by sinking a 20- foot putt to save par at the last.

Their playing partners, the Misses McKenna and Houri- hane, were duly impressed, hav- ing themselves played steadily, if unspectacularly, with a 72. In the relatively calm, pleasant conditions, they managed three birdies and two one-over-pars, with the highlight Miss McK- enna's seven iron to two feet at the short 13th.

Mrs Caldwell is playing host to the Misses Moorcraft and Hammond this week — for the time being at least — and they kept in touch with her compet- itively with a run of three birdies from the 10th. They dropped a shot at the 17th but have given themselves every chance of improving on last year's fourth place in this 72-hole event.

Miss Moorcraft, aged 21, is a full England international and is another player with Curtis Cup ambitions but Miss Hammond, aged 24, says she just wants to get through a full season, having missed most of the last two seasons and an England cap because of illness.

Irish League recover from early setback

By a Correspondent

Irish League	2
League of Ireland	1

The Irish League scored twice in a five-minute spell during the first half to defeat the League of Ireland in yesterday's annual St Patrick's Day representative fix- ture at Newry Showgrounds.

Trailing to a 19th minute goal by Larkin from Neville's free kick the home side found their composure to dominate the remainder of the match. The Irish League equalized in the 27th minute when the goal- keeper, Byrne, failed to cut out a corner and Wade headed in.

Four minutes later McCoy, a possibility for Northern Irel- and's European championship match against England on April 1, struck a left foot shot wide of the goalkeeper.

But, overall, it was a match which fell short of the expected standard before a disappointing crowd of only 1,000. This was the Irish League's sixteenth victory since the series was introduced in 1926, one less than the League of Ireland.

IRISH LEAGUE: Dunlop (Linfield); McNutten (Larne), Carliss (Portadown), D Byrne (Ards), Jeffrey (Linfield), Docherty (Linfield), Wade (Coleraine), Caskey (Glentoran), Baxter (Ards), McCreadie (Coleraine), McCoy (Coleraine).
LEAGUE OF IRELAND: J Byrne (Sham- rock Rovers); Lawless (Dundalk), Lawlor (Dundalk), Keely (Shamrock Rovers), Murphy (Bohemians), Berry (Cork City), J Byrne (Bohemians), Larkin (Shamrock Rovers), McDaid (Finn Harps), Mansion (Galway United), Neville (Shamrock Rovers).
Referee: R Stewart (Belfast).

RUGBY UNION

Deane's late try is a match-winner

Methodist Coll Belfast	10
Bangor GS	9

Methodist College Belfast won the Ulster Schools Cup with a last-minute try by their No. 8, Deane, at Ravenhill yes- terday (George Ace writes). It was a fitting end to a keenly- contested match.

Outside half, McKenna, put Bangor ahead, a lead they held until 14 minutes in the second half. Persistent forward pressure close to the Bangor line ended with the holders taking a strike against the head but scrum half, Bennett, fluffed his relieving kick and McQuoid dived on the loose ball for a try which Malone goaled.

Two penalties from McKenna put Bangor back in front but Deane picked up at the base of a scrum close to the Bangor line and forced his way over for the deciding try.

SCORERS: Methodist College Belfast: Tries: McQuoid, Deane. Conversion: Ma- lone. Bangor GS: Penalties: McKenna (3).
METHODIST COLLEGE BELFAST: N Malone; S McIvor, I Gallagher (capt), S Gillespie, J Neill; K McGarry, A Arnott; C Welsh, D McCrea, P Spence, J McQuoid, M Sloan; R McBrier, G Craig, J Deane.
BANGOR GS: S Doherty; R Sexton, G Ellis, M Ellesmere, N Backler; S McKenna, J Bennett; J Mawhinney, D Flanagan (capt), C Kerr, J Harris, R Brown, R Wilson, S Crowther, D Cooke.
Referee: P D Hewitt.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C
FRANCE							
La Plagne	100	140	good	varied	icy	fine	-3
Spring snow conditions							
Megève	35	160	good	varied	fair	fine	2
Excellent skiing in all areas							
SWITZERLAND							
Davos	110	200	good	powder	good	snow	0
Excellent skiing everywhere							
Mürren	120	160	good	good	good	snow	1
Excellent skiing everywhere							
Saas-Fee	80	250	good	varied	poor	fine	-1
Icy patches on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: upper runs, runs complete, spring snow with icy patches; middle runs, runs complete, spring snow with icy patches; lower slopes, limited nursery areas, spring snow; vertical runs, 1800ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 2000ft. Glenshee: upper runs, runs complete, hard packed snow with icy patches; middle runs, runs complete, hard packed snow with icy patches; lower slopes, some runs complete, wet snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 1500ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 1500ft. Glencoe (Friday to Monday only): upper runs, runs complete, wet snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete but narrow, wet snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 1400ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 2200ft. Lecht: upper runs, runs complete, new snow on a firm base; middle runs, runs complete, new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, ample nursery areas, new snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 700ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 2000ft. Forecast for today: heavy snow showers, most frequent on north-west and north facing slopes; drifting in storm force northerly winds. Outlook for tomorrow: gale force north- erly winds; heavy snow showers; drifting.
● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

World title dates

Three world championship boxing matches will take place in France in April and May. The Mexican, Julio César Chávez, will defend his World Boxing Council (WBC) super-feather- weight crown against Francisco Tomás Cruz, of Brazil, in Nimes on April 18, while, at Reims on May 16, the Argentinian, Santos Laciar, will challenge the Mexi- can, Gilberto Román, for his WBC super-flyweight crown and, in another bout, the Australian, Barry Michael, will defend his IBF super-feather- weight title against Daniel Londas, of France.

● Ivan Lendl took £140,000 in prizemoney and a £500,000 racket of encrusted gold with 1,421 diamonds in winning the European Champions' Champ- ionship in Belgium in Novem- ber 1985.

SPORT IN BRIEF

McRae pursues record

Jimmy McRae, of Scotland, will attempt to equal Paddy Hopkirk's record of five wins when he takes part in this year's Rothmans Circuit of Ireland Rally from April 17 to 20. Also among the entry list, which closes on March 20, is Russell Brookes, who has won the event three times.

Lattek leaves

Udo Lattek, the West Ger- man league's most successful manager, has signed a five-year contract with Cologne after deciding to leave the German champions, Bayern Munich, at the end of the season. Lattek, aged 52, has won the league title seven times and the cup three times with Bayern and his previous club Borussia Mönchengladbach.

Slims win

Carling Bassett defeated Elna Reinach, of South Africa, 6-1, 7- 5 in the first round of the Virginia Slims tournament at Dallas to end an embarrassing run of early losses which has seen the Canadian No. 1 slip to 35 in the world after being ranked in the top 10.

Series plan

Plans for a grand prix series to replace the world champion- ships in speed skating are to be considered by the International Skating Union. The series would be organized along the same lines as the motor racing world championship.

Penhall back

Bruce Penhall, who was world speedway champion in 1981 and 1982, is to make a surprise comeback in Peter Collins's farewell meeting at Belle Vue, Manchester on March 29. Penhall will ride in a three- match series against Collins, but denied suggestions that he in- tends making a full-time return to British speedway.

Rule change

The number of overseas play- ers in the men's National Basketball League next season has been reduced to a maximum of two for each team. In other major competitions, including the new premier league and the Prudential National Cup has been limited to a maximum of three. At present, all clubs can field four players

Wales impress

Wales, attempting to regain the title they last held in 1984, made a winning start in yesterday's women's home international indoor bowls championship in Auchinleck beating Ireland 137-106.

LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES: 70: C Caldwell (Sunningdale) and K Harridge (Cowdray Park). 71: S Moorcraft (Thornton Park) and T Hammond (Lea- ington and County). 72: M McKenna (Donabate) and C Hourihane (Wood- brook). 74: J Collingham (Notts) and P Smillie (Alwoodley). 75: M Wright (Castle Douglas) and T Craik (Frilford Heath). 76: J Rhodes (West Bowling) and S Shapcott (Knowle). 77: K Mezmel (Worting) and N Way (Newlle); A Jones (Boston) and H Dobson (Seacroft); S Bennett (Colchester) and M Cornelius (Newll); L Bayman (Berkshire) and B Jackson (Handsworth).

هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

An opera house for youth cricket

While the storm clouds have gathered over Sussex's ground at Hove in recent weeks, the county's former captain, John Barclay, has been enjoying one of the most perfect views in cricket, 40 miles to the West.

Barclay, who captained the team through arguably the most successful six years in the county's history, was forced to retire half-way through last summer with a severe finger injury, but he has *now taken up a new career* as Director of Cricket Coaching of the grandly titled Arundel Castle Cricket Foundation.

His office overlooks the beautiful ground where, traditionally, amid the picnic hampers, the biting wind and the shouts of children, the summer's touring team gently begin their labour. His conversation is punctuated by commentaries on the movements of the *local wildlife. It is* a far cry from the hot-house atmosphere of county cricket, but he is enjoying the fresh air.

The *Arundel Castle Cricket* Foundation was set up midway through 1986, masterminded by Colin Cowdrey and *financed initially by a* £300,000 grant from Paul Getty. It is a charity, whose aim is to provide cricket and *cricket* coaching to young players of all age-groups and all abilities. The grant will be used to build an indoor centre just behind the pavilion, so that, together with the idyllic setting and the first-class ground, Arundel can become "a centre of identity for youth cricket" as Barclay sees it.

Barclay has a vision

"I have a vision of a centre of youth cricket at Arundel where young cricketers can come to play and be coached," says Barclay. "It is a very exciting prospect".

The cost of running the foundation will be met, he hopes, by money raised from charitable trusts and industry and a high-powered Board of Trustees should ensure a steady income. But Barclay is also keen to establish a local identity for the foundation. Since he started his new job in November of last year, 'Trout' (the nickname comes from his third name of Troutbeck) has been visiting local schools taking coaching sessions and *spreading the word*, particularly in the primary schools.

Building the centre, which will have space for three nets, starts in the summer with completion due next spring, but Barclay estimates that it will be three years before the *Duchess of Norfolk's estate* will resound with the shouts of children on every day of the year.

"The Foundation is a wonderful opportunity to provide something youngsters otherwise wouldn't get and *that is a really good thing*," he said.

In Barclay's language, there is no higher praise than "a *really good thing*" *but he* would be the first to admit that it has been "a really good thing" for him too.

"Coaching is already making me a fuller and more knowledgeable cricketer. An awful lot goes on outside the narrow set of first-class cricket which I never knew about".

Will not miss the pressure

But though he says he might miss the cricket when the season starts he will not miss the pressures off the field and Sussex's constant financial battles. "Throughout my six years as captain, which I enjoyed, the lack of money was the overriding factor which made life very difficult for everyone including myself. The sizeable overdraft was whittled away but at considerable cost to the overall morale of the club".

Barclay is not the type to cast stones from his new *outpost and he recalls the good* times on the field far more readily than the bad times off it: the season of 1981 when they failed by just two runs to win the championship for the first time in the club's history, the 14 wins out of 16 matches which gave them the John Player *League title in the* following year and, even though he did not play, the pleasure of bowing out on a winning note when Sussex won the NatWest Trophy last summer.

Now the self-confessed cricket chatterbox will channel his energies into new areas

"I would like Arundel Castle to be to Lord's what Glyndebourne is to Covent Garden; an extension of an exceptional place in an idyllic setting, with the emphasis on youth."

Andrew Longmore

Gavaskar fights in vain as Pakistan edge to first series win in India

From Qamar Ahmed, Bangalore

Victory by the narrowest of margins *on the fourth day of* the final Test here yesterday, gave Pakistan their first-ever series win in India. In spite of a masterful innings of 96 by Sunil Gavaskar, the Indians were bowled out for 204 in their second innings, to fall *16* runs short in a nerve-racking finish.

Once again, it was Pakistan's spin pairing of Tauseef Ahmed and Iqbal Qasim who *did the* damage. They claimed the remaining six wickets to fall on the day after India resumed at 99 for four, needing 122 runs to win.

Except for one over by Wasim Akram this morning, which yielded seven runs, the two spinners bowled unchanged throughout. Tauseef finished with four for 85, and Qasim four for 73; thus, both added to their five-wicket *hauls in the first innings, and* finished with match figures of nine for 139 and nine for 121 respectively.

Their nagging accuracy and deceptive flight, helped by an unplayable pitch, slowed Gavaskar, who added three *runs to his overnight total of* 51 in the first hour of play.

He also survived two confident appeals when on 52. First, he stepped back to a faster ball from Qasim and was trapped in front of the stumps; and later, a catch by Rizwan-uz-Zaman off the same bowler was rejected. On both ocassions, play was held up as the fielders protested, *but Gavaskar kept his nerve* and batted on with authority.

He added 43 runs for the fifth wicket before Azha*ruddin was brilliantly caught* by Qasim off his own bowling *for 26. A similar catch by the* same bowler dismissed Shastri for four, leaving India on 155 for six — still 66 runs short of the target.

Runs were hard to come by, though Gavaskar twice found gaps in the covers, and drove Qasim for four each time. But Imran Khan, the Pakistan captain, kept the bowler on, and the confidence was soon *rewarded when Kapil Dev* was bowled playing back.

At lunch, India were 161 for seven. Gavaskar was still *there, on 82*, and always looking for the strike. His defiant innings ended soon after the interval, however, when Qasim again made a vital breakthrough. Gavaskar failed to fend off an awkward delivery, which took an edge and was held by Rizwan at first slip. His 96 was made in 323 minutes, and contained eight fours.

Five runs later, Shivlal Yadav was bowled by Tauseef *for four. The off spinner* wrapped up the innings when he had Binny caught — but only after the Indian tailender had added 19 runs for the last wicket with Maninder Singh, and almost pulled off the impossible at the last minute. It was an ironic end to a series *in which the tedious play of* the four earlier Tests — all of which were drawn — suggested the teams were incapable of such an exciting finish.

Although Pakistan have won two series at home against India — in 1978-79, *then in 1982-83 — their only* previous win in a Test in India was at Lucknow in 1952, where they triumphed by an innings and 43 runs.

Ironically, Pakistan won after making 116 — their lowest score against India — in the first innings. In the 40 Tests between the countries, Pakistan have won seven, India four, with 29 being drawn — including the previous 11.

"My ambition of winning a series in India has been fulfilled and now I am looking forward to the English tour," said the elated Imran. "I hope my boys will do well." He also stressed that a panel of neutral umpires are the best solution to the bickering that goes on in the middle.

Gavaskar was declared the man of the match, and Imran the man of the series.

Gloucester tour

Gloucestershire will leave for a three-week pre-season tour to Sri Lanka next Friday. They will play eight one-day matches and one three-day game.

PAKISTAN: First Innings 116 (Maninder Singh 7 for 27).
Second Innings 249 (R J Shastri 4 for 68).
INDIA: First Innings 145 (D B Vengsarkar 50; Iqbal Qasim 5 for 48, Tauseef Ahmed 5 for 54).

Second Innings	
K Srikkanth lbw b Wasim	6
S M Gavaskar c Rizwan b Qasim	96
M B Amarnath c Salim Yousuf b Wasim	0
D B Vengsarkar b Tauseef	19
†K S More lbw b Tauseef	3
M Azharuddin c and b Qasim	28
R J Shastri c and b Qasim	4
*Kapil Dev b Qasim	2
R M H Binny c Salim Yousuf b Tauseef	15
N S Yadav b Tauseef	4
Maninder Singh not out	2
Extras (b 22, lb 5)	27
Total	204

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-15, 3-64, 4-80, 5-123, 6-156, 7-161, 8-180, 9-185, 10-204.
BOWLING: Wasim 11-3-19-2; Tauseef 45.5-12-85-4; Iqbal Qasim 37-11-73-4.
Umpires: V K Ramaswamy and Ram Babu Gupta.



Top spinner: Tauseef, who took nine for 139 in the Test

West Indies still dominant force

By Marcus Williams

Despite West Indies' loss of form in this winter's encounters *with Pakistan and New Zealand*, they remain the dominant force in Test cricket in the Eighties.

The accompanying tables — computed on the percentage of wins over the periods from January 1, 1980 and from January 1, 1986 up to and including the series between *India and Pakistan*, which finished yesterday — show, in both instances, West Indies well clear of the field. New Zealand in second place and Pakistan third.

The senior Test-playing countries, Australia and England, are fourth and fifth respectively over the last seven years, but in the second table they occupy the bottom positions below the junior Test nation, Sri Lanka.

The euphoria of England's *excellent performances in* Australia during the winter is tempered by a comparison with their overall record since the start of last year: the two victories in Australia were the only ones in that period, during *which they lost nine times.* Australia fare even worse over the recent period.

The moribund nature of India's home pitches is illustrated by the high proportion of draws in their record, but perhaps the most striking figure is the total number of Tests played *in that time — 207 or nearly 30* per year.

World league tables

Since January 1 1980

	P	W	L	D	T	%win
West Indies	62	32	5	25	0	51.61
New Zealand	45	16	12	18	0	34.78
Pakistan	60	19	12	29	0	31.66
Australia	76	19	28	28	1	25.00
England	86	19	29	32	0	23.75
India	66	*8*	18	41	1	12.12
Sri Lanka	24	2	13	9	0	8.33

Since January 1 1986

	P	W	L	D	T	%win
West Indies	11	7	2	2	0	63.63
New Zealand	9	3	1	5	0	33.33
Pakistan	11	3	2	6	0	27.27
India	15	4	11	9	1	26.66
Sri Lanka	6	1	3	2	0	16.66
England	16	2	9	5	0	12.50
Australia	12	1	3	7	1	8.33

TEST MATCH AVERAGES

India batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/St
D B Vengsarkar	5	8	2	404	109	67.33	1	2	5
M Azharuddin	5	8	0	315	141	52.50	2	—	5
S M Gavaskar	4	6	0	295	96	49.16	—	3	3
K Srikkanth	5	8	0	311	123	38.87	1	1	6
R M H Binny	3	4	2	74	52*	37.00	—	1	—
Kapil Dev	5	6	1	182	66	36.40	—	3	5
R J Shastri	5	6	0	197	125	32.83	1	—	2
M B Amarnath	5	8	1	213	89	30.42	—	1	1
K S More	5	6	1	85	28	17.00	—	—	7/3
N S Yadav	4	5	2	18	8*	6.00	—	—	1
Maninder Singh	4	5	2	12	7*	4.00	—	—	—
R R Kulkarni	2	2	0	2	2	1.00	—	—	1
G Sharma	2	1	0	0	0	0.00	—	—	—

PLAYED IN ONE MATCH: Arun Lal 52, 70.

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	BB	5I	10M
R M H Binny	49.1	12	126	8	15.75	6-56	1	—
Maninder Singh	260.2	*96*	*478*	*20*	23.90	7-27	*2*	*1*
G Sharma	104.5	16	186	6	31.00	4-88	—	—
Kapil Dev	162	37	430	11	39.09	3-46	—	—
R J Shastri	201.2	53	423	9	47.00	4-69	—	—
N S Yadav	161.3	35	401	8	50.12	4-109	—	—

ALSO BOWLED: M B Amarnath 22-8-42-2; S M Gavaskar 5-1-15-0; R R Kulkarni 32-3-113-2; K Srikkanth 7-0-17-0.

Pakistan batting and fielding

	M	I	NO	R	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/St
Imran Khan	5	7	2	324	135*	64.80	1	2	—
Javed Miandad	4	7	1	302	94	50.33	—	4	3
Younis Ahmed	2	3	1	88	40	44.00	—	—	—
Ramiz Raja	5	9	0	381	114	42.33	1	1	3
Shoaib Moh'd	3	5	0	175	101	35.00	1	—	—
Rizwan	5	9	1	197	60	24.62	—	3	3
Tauseef Ahmed	4	5	3	47	15*	23.50	—	—	2
Salim Yousuf	5	7	1	134	43	22.33	—	—	8/2
Salim Malik	5	9	2	155	33	22.14	—	—	4
Manzoor Elahi	2	3	0	60	52	20.00	—	1	2
Wasim Akram	5	6	1	89	62	17.80	—	1	2
Iqbal Qasim	3	4	0	66	26	16.50	—	—	6
Abdul Qadir	3	3	0	48	25	16.00	—	—	—
Saleem Jaffer	2	3	1	8	8	4.00	—	—	—

PLAYED IN ONE MATCH: Ijaz Ahmed 3; Ijaz Faqih 105.

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	BB	5I	10M
Iqbal Qasim	154	46	367	12	30.58	5-48	1	—
Wasim Akram	159	30	413	13	31.76	5-96	1	—
Tauseef Ahmed	218.5	36	561	18	35.06	5-54	1	—
Imran Khan	123.1	21	392	8	49.00	2-26	—	—
Abdul Qadir	68	8	242	4	60.50	2-130	—	—

ALSO BOWLED: Ijaz Faqih 27-3-81-1; Manzoor Elahi 3-2-8-1; Rizwan-uz-Zaman 5-2-7-1; Saleem Jaffer 43-2-148-2; Shoaib Mohammad 9-1-32-1; Younis Ahmed 1-0-6-0.

● Compiled by Richard Lockwood



Puncher and cowpuncher: The new-look Frank Bruno, sporting a stubbly beard, the first signs of his new mean, moody image, came face to face yesterday with the man he meets at Wembley on March 24, James "Quick" Tillis, the fighting cowboy (Srikumar Sen writes). It will be Bruno's first bout since he was stopped by Tim Witherspoon in 10 rounds last July. But the quiet man from Wandsworth was in no mood to match words with the tall-talker from Tulsa. "James is taking all the pressure off me by doing the talking," Bruno said. Bruno and Tillis met when they were training in the same Catskills gym four years ago. "Tillis is a fast and cheeky fighter and I'll have to be careful of him," Bruno admitted. If Bruno wins he will meet Mike Tyson, the World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association champion, who flies in by Concorde today. Tyson will be at Wembley to see how Bruno handles Tillis, one of only three men to have gone the distance with the young champion. Tyson will be staying at the Grosvenor House and will watch Bruno training in Terry Lawless's gym in Canning Town at 3pm on Friday.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Holding is doubtful for final

By Keith Macklin

Neil Holding, the St. Helens scrum half, who suffered severely torn shoulder muscles in Saturday's Silk Cut challenge cup semi-final against Leigh, has gone into hospital for an operation. The injury is so bad that Holding may not be fully fit for the final at Wembley on May 2.

A positional switch has been made in the Great Britain Under 21 side to play France at St. Helens on Saturday as Paul Hulme, the Widnes second row forward, has had to drop out of training because of college examinations. The man he replaced in the side, Gary Sanderson, of Warrington, moves up from substitute with Hulme dropping down.

Greg Alexander, the Australian scrum half, who scored several brilliant tries on the recent tour but failed to find a place in the international squad, is to join Hull. Alexander, who plays for Penrith in the Sydney competition, will arrive next season.

St Helens have offered Mark Elia, their New Zealand centre, a further three-year contract, and Phil Veivers, their Australian full back, who was man of the match against Leigh, has been signed again for next season.

Ray Ashton, the Leeds scrum half, will be out of the game for a month with a broken hand.

REAL TENNIS

Davies renews challenge for world title

By William Stephens

Wayne Davies earned his third challenge for the world championship, when he defeated Lachlan Deuchar 3-6, 6-6, 6-3, 6-1, 6-2 in the third leg of the final eliminator, sponsored by George Wimpey, at Queen's Club yesterday.

At the start, Deuchar coolly moved Davies around the court probing his weaknesses — particularly his fitness. But one set from losing the match, Davies improved his return of service and continually attacked the dedans with accuracy.

Attrition told on Deuchar whose unforced errors increased; he committed eight in the second game of the fourth set which lasted over 10 minutes. In 13 sets of often brilliant play and considerable tension, Davies's experience proved the ultimate arbiter.

No deal

Andy Kennedy, the Birmingham City forward, has rejected a move to Huddersfield Town after failing to agree terms.

RUGBY UNION

Money comes rolling in for the inaugural World Cup

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The organizers of rugby union's first World Cup expressed confidence yesterday that the event would gross *between US$10-12million*, providing development funds for all the participating countries and funding for an permanent international secretariat for the game, which has never previously existed.

At a press conference in London John Kendall-Carpenter, chairman of the World Cup Management Committee, unveiled the Webb Ellis Trophy, to be presented to the winning country, and said the tour*nament was* "doing well financially" even before gate receipts were taken into account.

Television agreements (£1.67m) and sponsorship *will* provide about $6m. One of the major sponsors will be Rank Xerox, the copying and office systems company, who are providing £350,000 and equipment worth £200,000. The remainder will come from ticket sales.

"Rugby has grown up," Mr Kendall-Carpenter said. "We thought we were the greatest but, as far as the world was concerned, it was pretty small beer when it came to attracting high-level sponsorship. But at the moment we have $4m banked and another $1m to come in the next few days.

"When it comes to distribution of the profits, 10 per cent has been set aside for an International Rugby Football Board secretariat, to fuel the game for the next four years, in terms not only of the tournament but international congresses and conferences.

"*Australia and New Zealand* will share 40 per cent as the host nations and the other 50 per cent will be distributed among the participating countries."

Patrick Nally, whose company West Nally has been responsible for marketing the tournament, said: "The problem we have faced is that there has never been an event called World Cup Rugby before. There were no ground rules. One of our earliest problems was the difficulty of structuring an event in two completely different countries separated by the Tasman Sea.

"Only last November did Japan announce that they were happy with the arrangements as they related to amateurism, and 60 per cent of our commercial revenue will come from Japan. It is not yet a world event. We have strong pockets where there is a great interest in the game but awareness of rugby in, for example, North America, is limited." Mr Nally underlined the difficulty of establishing a world event for a sport which has no permanent central staff or organization.

Original projections of 11,000 visitors from overseas to the tournament have been fined down to 2,500, but the organisers remain optimistic that all 16 competing countries will attend. There had been doubts about whether Zim*babwe would attend but Mr* Kendall-Carpenter said the country's rugby union president, and their sports council, had recently indicated they were going ahead.

There are several countries in reserve, probably including South Korea whose tour to Queensland in May is understood to have been taken over by Australia because of the cancellation of a five-match tour by the Soviet Union. Air Commodore *Bob Weighill*, secretary to the International Board, has sent a telex to the Australian Union asking if they intend to comply with the World Cup regulations which preclude warm-up games or whether there will be an international against South Korea immedi*ately prior to the World Cup*, which opens on May 17 with the first match on May 22.

Strong NZ side named

The New Zealand Barbarians open their five-match tour of Britain and Ireland at Leicester today with what looks close to *their strongest XV* (David Hands writes).

Of particular interest will be the performance of the midfield backs where, for example, John Schuster, the Auckland centre, may press for a place in New Zealand's team for the World Cup later in the year.

Leicester, John Player Special Cup semi-finalists, have Rory Underwood back on the wing in place of Colin Dexter, which is *the only change from the side* that beat Bristol on Saturday. The contest between Dean Richards and Mike Brewer, the respective No. 8s, will be particularly instructive for the national selectors of both England and New Zealand.

Just up the road, at Nottingham's Beeston ground, the UAU play their annual representative match against British Polytechnics. Injuries have forced changes in both packs but the contest between *the half backs* should be entertaining. Polytechnics have Aled Williams, the Bridgend and Welsh trial stand-off half, partnered by Richard Williams, *the Gloucester scrum half.* The UAU have picked the Swansea University pair, David Evans (who plays stand-off for the Cardiff club) and Carwyn Phillips.

UAU: S Hill (University College, London); J Perkins (Bristol), M Hall (Cardiff, capt), J Bird (Swansea), A Richards (Swansea); D *Evans (Swansea), C Phillips (Swansea)*; G Evans (Swansea), H Williams (Cardiff), S Wordley (Cardiff), C Sheasby (King's, London), M Bradley (Hull), M Reid (Loughborough), E Telani (UWIST), S Bryant (Swansea).
BRITISH POLYTECHNICS: *R Kisby* (Kingston, capt); D Holdstock (Thames), P Reid (Sheffield), M Birkett (South Bank), D O'Brien (Teesside); A Williams (Wales), R Williams (Bristol); D Aitken (Liverpool), J McFarland (Sheffield), P Barnett (Leicester), *R Stratford (Liverpool)*, D Phelps (Bristol), J Antonelazzi (Portsmouth), C Mantel (Thames), O Harries (Bristol).

Morrow given last chance to shine

By George Ace

David Morrow, who won the last of his three caps against Scotland at Lansdowne Road last season was, on that occasion, listed in the official match programme as being 5ft 3in tall. An unfortunate typographical error; for five read six. But, after what has happened to him this season, Morrow must feel about 5ft 3in tall.

A shoulder injury against the South of Scotland in Jedburgh last September ruled him out of contention for Ireland's opening *match against Romania.* But a week after the team was named Morrow was drafted into the Ulster side to meet Munster in Cork after Matthews cried off with an injury.

This was a fine opportunity for Morrow, bringing him into direct opposition with the man who had been named as the Ireland No 8 for the Romanian game, Mike Gibson.

Morrow outplayed Gibson beyond any doubt but when the Ulster team to meet Connacht at Ravenhill was announced he was on the substitute's bench, the Ulster selectors preferring to play Matthews, the Ireland No 6, at No 8 and keep Duncan, who won two caps in 1984, at blind side wing forward, with Carr on the open side.

Morrow was still, however, in the Irish panel and he took part in training weekends in Dublin and in the unofficial trial at Ravenhill two weeks ago. But his name was missing when the 30-man party, including the team and replacements for Saturday's game against France in Dublin, was named for a squad training session in Dublin last Sunday.

Tonight, Morrow captain's an Ulster B team against a French Universities's side at Ravenhill and he certainly needs no reminding that this is his last *chance to prove to the men that* matter that he is 6ft 3in, a very fine backrow forward and fully deserving of serious consideration for one of the 26 places in Ireland's World Cup party.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Detroit Pistons 115, Indiana Pacers 95; Houston Rockets 97, Chicago Bulls 96; Seattle Supersonics 122, San Antonio Spurs 111.

BOWLS

AUCHINLOCH, Scotland: British women's indoor championship: Singles, final: M Johnston (Ire) bt J Lindores (Scot), 21-18. Pairs, final: Wales (S Oliver and J Davies) bt England (W Lee and E Fairhall), 29-11. Triples, final: Ireland (M Montgomery, A Elliot and J Mulholland) bt Scotland (C Rumball, J Colquhoun and C Kiltey), 15-9. Fours, final: England (P Wright, K Ramsdale, G Summers, V Branson) bt Wales (F Lewis, V Howells, M Rees, P Griffiths), 18-15. Home international team championship: Wales bt Ireland 137-108. (Welsh skips first: J Davies lost to E Ball, 21-23; P Griffiths lost to K Toner, 15-25; J Ackland beat A Brown, 41-6; S Oliver bt N Alley, 28-14; J Mills drew with M Johnston, 16-16; M Pomeroy lost to N Gibson, 14-22.

CYCLING

FERMO, Italy: Tyrrhenian-Adriatic race: Overall standings (At fourth stage) (Italian unless stated): 1, T van Vliet (Neth), 18hr 53min 34secs; 2, F Chiocciol, 15sec behind; 3, *T Rominger (Swit), 21sec*; 4, *G Calcaterra*, 22sec; 5, R Sorensen (Den), 32sec; 6, G Bugno, 34sec; 7, D Caroli, 36sec; 8, F Moser, 39sec; 9, G Wintersberg (Bel), 40sec; 10, J Worre (Den), 41sec.

MODERN PENTATHLON

BRITISH GAS VARSITY MATCH: Men's match: Cambridge, 28,675pts bt Oxford, 23,523pts. Individual scores: 1, T Roche (Oxford), 4,963pts; 2, R Driver (Oxford), 4,573; 3, D Chaplin (Cambridge), 4,564. Women's match: *Oxford, 14,473pts, bt Cambridge*, 14,372pts.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Open championship: singles, second round: R Wakely (Marlborough) bt T Brudenell, 15-6, 15-7, 14-16, 15-7. Third round: J Male bt D Johnson (Queen's), 15-2, 15-4, 17-15; S Hazell (Clifton) bt J Snow, 15-11, 15-10, 15-13; P Nicholls bt C Hue Williams 15-9 ret.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Winchester (J Zawoda-Martin and I Riaz) bt Charterhouse (H Taylor and C Samson) 15-11, 10-15, 15-10, 17-14, 15-9

FOOTBALL

Monday night's results
ESFA UNDER-15 INTERNATIONAL: England 1, West Germany 0 (at Anfield).
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Postponed: Dagenham v Weeldstone.
VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: Croydon 1, Harrow 1; Walthamstow Avenue 0, Hendon 1. First division: Stevenage 0, Boreham Wood 1.
MULTIPART LEAGUE: Mossley 2, Goole 0.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford 0, Aylesbury 1; Corby 1, Dartford 0.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Leicester City 3, Manchester City 4. Second division: Bolton Wanderers 0, Preston North End 0.
Yesterday's results
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Queen's Park Rangers 4, Crystal Palace 1.

RUGBY UNION

Monday night's results
CLUB MATCHES: Aberavon 58, Pembroke County 20; Cheltenham 0, Gloucester 46; Glamorgan Wanderers 9, Neath 29. *Cancelled: Maesteg v Tumble.*

GOLF

SUN WEST CITY: PGA Seniors' Tour Arizona Classic: Second round (US unless stated): 133: M Barber, 66, 68; W Casper, 68, 65. 134: R Charles (NZ), 64, 70, 135: C Rodriguez (P Rico), 65, 70. 136: R Erickson, 69, 67. 137: G Jones, 71, 66; L Elder, 70, 67; P Harney, 67, 70; B Brue, 68, 69; R Brue, 65, 72.
SONY WORLD PROFESSIONAL RANKINGS: 1, G Norman (Aus), 1622pts; 2, B Langer (WG), 1282; 3, S Ballesteros (Sp), 1223; 4, T Nakajima (Jap), 917; 5, P Stewart (US), 856; 6, L Wadkins (US), 753; 7, B Tway (US), 715; 8, C Pavin (US), 690; 9, H Sutton (US), 671; 10, I Aoki (Jap), 662; 11, S Lyle (GB), 647.

INDOOR CRICKET

MACLAYS OF ALLOA SCOTTISH NATIONAL SIX-A-SIDE CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-finals: Carlton 105, Ayrshire 68; Penicuik 119 for 2, Stirling County 122 for 0; Kelso 144 for 3, Greenlock 149 for 5; Kirkcaldy 84, *Aberdeenshire 85 for 5. Semi-finals: Carlton 110 for 2*, Stirling County 110; Greenock 133 for 3, Aberdeenshire 136 for 3. Final: Carlton 120 for 3, Aberdeenshire 121 for 2.

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: American zone: Quarter-finals: Montevideo: Brazil bt Uruguay 3-2. Nassau: Chile bt Commonwealth Caribbean 3-2. Lima: Canada bt Peru 3-2.
DALLAS: Women's Classic tournament: *Singles, first round (US unless stated)*: R White bt T Phelps, 7-6, 6-2; S Reha bt S Leo (Aus), 7-6, 7-5; S Potter bt M Wentas, 6-1, 6-4; B Gerken bt J Sanders, 6-3, 7-5; T Mochizuki bt B Gadusek, 7-5, 6-1; C Basseto (Can) bt E Reinach (SA), 6-1, 7-5; L Bonder bt J Kitsch, 7-5, 6-1.
ORLANDO, Florida: Men's Grand Prix tournament: Singles, first round (US unless stated): T Wilkison bt D Pate, 6-4, 6-2; T Wilkison bt J Kriek, 6-2, 6-2; G Holmes bt H Pfister, 6-7, 7-6, 7-6; C Steyn (SA) bt J Ross, 6-4, 6-1; E Edwards (SA) bt B Dunlap, 4-6, 6-4, 6-1; M Freeman bt J Faurian (Fr), 6-7, 6-2, 6-2; S Gilbert bt M Dickson, 6-1, 6-4; P Annacone bt M Purcell, 6-3, 6-4.
ROTTERDAM: Netherlands Men's Grand Prix tournament: Singles, first round: J Crabb (US) bt J Canter (US), 7-6, 6-3; J Svensson (Swe) bt P Lundgren (Swe), 6-2, 6-4; A Maurer (WG) bt H van Boeckel (Neth), 7-6, 6-1; M Schapers (*Neth) bt C Limberger (Aust)*, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3, 6-1; M Leach (US) bt J Hlasek (Swit), 6-4, 6-7, 6-4.
WITA RANKINGS: 1, M Navratilova (US); 2, S Graf (WG); 3, C Lloyd (US); 4, H Mandlikova (Cz); 5, P Shriver (US); 6, H Sukova (Cz); 7, Z Garrison (US); 8, C Kohde-Kilsch (WG); 9, G Sabatini (Arg); 10, K Rinaldi (US); 11, M Maleeva (Bul); 12, B Bunge (WG); 13, L McNeil (US); 14, C Lindqvist (Swe); 15, W Turnbull (Aus); 16, S Reha (US); 17, R Reggi (It); 18, M Gurney (US); 19, M Fernandez (US); 20, R White (US).
WITA earnings: 1, Graf, US$208,750; 2, Mandlikova, $186,809; 3, Lloyd, $162,525; 4, Turnbull, $150,099; 5, Garrison, $135,827; 6, Navratilova, $121,696; 7, Shriver, $104,500; 8, Sukova, $101,725; 9, Kohde-Kilsch, $86,550; 10, McNeil, $74,365; 11, E Smylie (Aus), $57,138; 12, Lindqvist, $42,367; 13, B Bunge (WG), $40,825; 14, E Burgin (US), $39,669; 15, Rinaldi, $39,225; 16, White, $32,809; 17, B Nagelsen (US), $27,800; 18, Sukova, $26,650; 19, L Savchenko (USSR), $25,775; 20, R Fairbank (SA), $24,251.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Montreal Canadiens 3, New York Islanders 0.

SNOOKER

MANSFIELD: Rothmans Matchroom League: S Davis (Eng) bt N Foulds (Eng), 5-2.

YACHTING

CANNES: International old-yachting regatta: Sailboard class: Division II, Lightweight: 1, C Mesnil (Swi); 2, J Ballangé (Swi); 3, J Borgo (Swi). British placings: 5, W Banham; 25, S Goody; 28, M Oxley; 34, B Edgington. Division II, Heavyweight: 7, B Fray (Fr); 2, J Bywater (GB); 3, E Ballini (Sp). Division II, Women: 1, M Granville (Fr); 2, V Capart (Fr); 3, V Chartier (Fr).

RUGBY FIVES

CLUB MATCH: Old Bedfordians bt East of England 301-183 (Bedfordians first: S Endersby bt A Kemp, 11-1; S Bevan lost to R Carr, 8-11; G Saunders bt S Jones, 11-9; J Bartle lost to R Freebairn, 4-11; P Camfield bt P Clark, 11-0; M Waterfield bt P Henson, 11-5; P Welch lost to M Kiseley, 9-11; M Daniel bt P Jackson, 11-2; *Endersby and Daniel bt Kemp* and Carr 15-2; bt Kiseley and Jackson 15-1; bt Clark and Henson 15-2; bt Jones and Freebairn 15-3, Bevan and Welsh bt Jones and Freebairn 15-13; lost to Kemp and Carr 1-15; bt Kiseley and Jackson 15-8; bt Clark and Henson 15-12. Saunders and Camfield bt *Clark and Henson* 15-4; bt Jones and Freebairn 15-3; bt Kemp and Carr 15-10; bt Kiseley and Jackson 15-5. Bartle and Waterfield bt Kiseley and Jackson 15-8; bt Clark and Henson 15-8; bt Jones and Freebairn 15-12; lost to Kemp and Carr 14-16.

VOLLEYBALL

HAVANA, Cuba: Women's international series: Second match: Cuba bt China 3-0 (15-8, 15-7, 15-11).

Logie signs

Augustine Logie, the West Indian Test batsman, has agreed to join Norden Cricket Club in the Central Lancashire League as their professional for the coming season. Norden have sent the contract to New Zealand, where Logie is playing with the West Indian Test side.

New signing

Crystal Palace have signed *Alan Pardew, a midfield player*, from Yeovil Town for a fee of £7,000.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

European Cup
Quarter-finals
Second leg
(First leg scores in brackets)
Anderlecht (0) v Bayern Munich (5) (7.0)
Dynamo Kiev (5) v Besiktas Istanbul (0) (4.0)
Real Madrid (2) v Red Star Belgrade (4) (8.0)
Bröndbyernes (0) v Porto (1) (6.0)

Cup Winners' Cup
Quarter-finals
Second leg
(First leg scores in brackets)
Vitosha Sofia (0) v Real Zaragoza (2) (4.30)
Ajax Amsterdam (0) v Malmö (1) (7.15)
Torpedo Moscow (0) v Bordeaux (1) (4.0)
Sion (0) v Lokomotiv Leipzig (2) (7.0)

UEFA Cup
Quarter-finals
Second leg
(First leg scores in brackets)
Barcelona (0) v Dundee United (1) (8.15)
Vitoria Guimarases (0) v Borussia Mönchengladbach (3) (4.0)
Swarovski Tyrol (0) v Torino (0) (6.0)
Internazionale Milan (0) v Göteborg (0) (7.45)

First division
Liverpool v QPR

Second division
Derby v Blackburn

Third division
Bristol R v Fulham (7.45)
Chester v York

Fourth division
Hartlepool v Exeter
Hereford v Rochdale

BASS IRISH CUP: Second round replay: Cliftonville v Newry (3.30).
CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Manchester United v Nottingham Forest (7.30); Newcastle v Sheffield United. Second division: Barnsley v Blackpool; Bradford v Rotherham (7.30); Darlington v Doncaster (7.30); Grimsby v Scunthorpe; Notts County v Bolton; Port Vale v Huddersfield; Wigan v Stoke.
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Brighton v Reading (2.0); Oxford United v Portsmouth; Swindon v Southampton (2.0).
CAPITAL LEAGUE: Gillingham v Orient (2.0).
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Maidstone v Bath; Welling v Nuneaton.
MULTIPART LEAGUE: Bangor v South Liverpool; Rhyl v Horwich.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: President's Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Worksop v Macclesfield.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City v Fisher; King's Lynn v Bedworth. Midland division: Grantham v Buckingham; Leicester United v Coventry Sporting.
VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor v Farnborough; Yeovil v Worthing (7.45). Second division north: Royston v Vauxhall Motors.
HAMPSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Semi-final: Road Sea v Fareham.
BUILDING SCENE EASTERN LEAGUE: Stowmarket v Great Yarmouth.
HE

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Edited by Sophie Witter and Christopher Davalle



Family protection: Hywel Bennett, with Gil Brailey and Simon Nash, fends off urban violence in Checkpoint Chiswick (Ch4, 10pm)

Has the media a message?

CHOICE

● **The Media Show** (Ch 4, 9pm) is a new arts magazine programme with an emphasis on popular culture. It seems to have a strong American bias and shows the difficulty of translating into words and pictures ideas perhaps more suited to prose articles. A piece on the making of *L.A. Law*, a slick series from the creator of the popular *Hill Street Blues*, rather takes for granted the superiority of *Blues*. The rich and cool look of *L.A. Law* is blatantly inspired by commercials, but the obvious question is not answered: is *L.A. Law* a cop-out or are liberal American TV shows (and *L.A. Law* does have a liberal slant, perhaps token) getting more clever at packaging ideas? A second report shows that military pictures like *Top Gun*, which was made with full military co-operation, are more likely to contain a certain propaganda than those like *Platoon*, which were turned down. No surprises here; but why no mention of Clint Eastwood's latest picture, *Heartbreak Ridge*, where military assistance was provided and the film later disowned?

● **Tickets for the Titanic: Checkpoint Chiswick** (Ch 4, 10pm) features Hywell Bennett as an architect at first neurotic about urban violence and then paranoid enough to fortify his quiet suburban home against all-comers. The siege mentality is presented without much conviction, and things are on all together surer ground during scratchy domestic exchanges. Puzzling, though, the remark: "He's got too much imagination . . . and the telly just stimulates it. It sort of mesmerizes him like a cobra." Oh really?

● The play *Perdition*, by Jim Allen, which suggested Zionist involvement in the Hungarian holocaust, was withdrawn because of public pressure. In Diverse Reports (Ch 4, 8.30pm), Allen and director Ken Loach defend it against accusations of distortion.

● The Radio choices are Rebels (Radio 4, 7.45pm) and The Thatcher Effect (Radio 4, 8.15pm). *Rebels*, the first of six programmes, looks at Al Capone, and *The Thatcher Effect* is the first of four inquiries by Mary Goldring into how our lives have changed since 1979 and the ascendency of Mrs Thatcher.

Chris Petit



Falling sensations: Mark Child and Rory McCarthy rise six miles in a hot air balloon for The World's Longest Drop (BBC, 9.40pm)

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM **6.55** Weather. **7.00** Breakfast Time with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusssson and Jeremy Paxman. National and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30**; regional news and traffic reports at **7.15, 7.45** and **8.15**; weather at **7.25, 7.55** and **8.25**. **8.40** Watchdog. Today David Gent from the Motor Agents Association is put in the hot seat to answer consumer complaints about garage service **8.55** Regional news and weather. **9.00** News and weather **9.05** Day to Day. Robert Kilroy-Silk leads discussion on the importance of sport in schools. Cricket captain Mike Gatting joins in **9.45** Advice Shop. Margo Margolis looks at a London project where owners build their own homes. **10.00** News and weather **10.05** Neighbours **10.25** Children's BBC with Phillip Schofield **10.30** Playschool. **10.50** Paddington. Narrated by Michael Hordern. **10.55** Five to Eleven. Hannah Gordon with a thought for the day **11.00** News and weather **11.05** Holiday 87 (Ceefax) (r) **11.30** Open Air. Includes news and weather at 12.00. **12.20** The Tom O'Connor Roadshow. Variety show from Port Talbot with Debbie Greenwood **12.55** Regional news and weather. **1.00** One O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. Weather **1.25** Neigbours. Paul proposes to Terry. **1.50** Chock-a-Block (r) **2.05** The Cheltenham Festival. Julian Wilson introduces the second day. With Sun Alliance Novices Hurdle at **2.15**, the Queen Mother Champion Steeplechase at **2.50** and the Coral Golden Hurdle Final at **3.30**. **3.50** Children's BBC: Caterpillar Trail with Stuart Bradley **4.10** Laurel and Hardy **4.15** Jackanory. The Iron Man part three, read by Tom Baker. (r) **4.25** Bananaman (r) **4.30** Fast Forward. **4.55** John Craven's Newsround. **5.05** Flossy's Giants. Part two of the series. (Ceefax) **5.35** The Recoons. **6.00** Six O'Clock News with Philip Hayton and Nicholas Witchell. Weather. **6.35** London Plus. **7.00** Wogan. Terry talks to guests Valerie Singleton, American actor Ben Gazzara and the former Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, John Stalker. **7.35** The Clothes Show. Selina Scott and Jeff Banks look at the autumn and winter collections at Olympia and talk to knitwear designer Sarah Dallas. **8.00** Dallas: John Ross seems to be growing like his father, but Ray refuses to play that game.(Ceefax) **8.50** Points of View. Anne Robinson presents viewers' opinions. **9.00** Nine O'Clock News with Julia Somerville and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather. **9.30** The Budget. Roy Hattersley, MP, gives opposition views on this year's Budget. **9.40** Q.E.D. In 1986 Rory McCarthy and Mark Child, two stockbrokers,jumped from 35,000 feet above Norfolk to break the world freefall record. But how did their bodies with stand the pressure and temperature produced by falling at 350 mph? (Ceefax) **10.10** Sportsnight. Steve Rider with football, snooker and highlights from the Cheltenham Gold Cup. **11.55** World of UB40. Divisions in the Smith family, as elder brother John is unemployed while younger Paul finds work. **12.10** Weather. Close at **12.15**.



A century Down Under: The cast of Neighbours celebrates 100 episodes of the Australian soap opera (BBC1, 1.25pm)

BBC 2

6.55 Open University. Education: Can You Hear Me? Ends at **7.20**. **9.00** Ceefax. **9.15** Daytime on Two. **9.15** Housing problems in Scotland **9.35** Ceefax **10.05** Four- and five-year olds listen to music **10.15** Water B **10.38** How do we predict weather patterns? **11.00** Words and pictures **11.17** Little plant-eating creatures **11.40** Maths at Work, part three **12.02** The problem of transport in the third world **12.25** Basic Spanish: asking for things **12.50** A festival of music **1.05** The Money Makers - Sir John Harvey Jones **1.38** The Caledonian Canal. **2.00** News and weather **2.02** Thinkabout (r) **2.17** Zig Zag. Exploring the cities of Canada, part two. (r) **2.25** Bazaar. Judi Spiers with money-saving ideas. (r) **3.00** News and weather. **3.03** International Snooker. Australia versus Wales in the Tuborg World Cup. **3.50** News, regional news and weather. **3.55** The Cheltenham Festival. **4.10** Pamela Armstrong talks to today's studio guest. **4.50** International Snooker **5.30** Cover to Cover. Nicholas Shakespeare talks to Doris Lessing about her latest book, The Wind Blows Away Our Words. **6.00** Film:The Brides of Fu Manchu (1966). Christopher Lee stars as Fu Manchu, the evil fiend who locks away girls related to important people, with Douglas Wilmer as his Scotland Yard adversary Nayland Smith. Directed by Don Sharp. **7.30** Take Nobody's Word for It. Professor David Phillips from the Royal Institution looks at a cure for cancer; Professor Ian Fells proves that the sky is not blue and Carol Mather joins Dr. Robin Baker of Manchester University in an investigation involving our sense of direction. **8.00** Whistle Test with Vince Clarke, Lyle Lovett, Camper van Beethoven and Tom Schotz. **8.30** Out of Court. Presented by Sue Cook and David Jessel. **9.00** M*A*S*H. **9.25** Heart of the Country. The last of Fay Weldon's four-part comedy. The women draw closer together as carnival time approaches. (Ceefax) **10.25** The Budget with Roy Hattersley MP for the Opposition. **10.35** Newsnight with analysis of the main events of the day **11.20** Weatherview. **11.25** Ludwig van Beethoven. Daniel Barenboim plays the Piano Sonata No 24, Op 78 - For Therese. **11.35** Open University: The effective manager, and a probability model for rare events. (r) Ends at **12.30**.

ITV/LONDON

6.15 TV-am Presented by Richard Keys, with Gordon Honeycombe on news, Wincey willis on weather, Brian Milton on money matters and Lizzie Webb leading her morning workout. Weather at **6.28** and **8.58**; news at **6.30**; sport at **6.40**; and exercises at **6.55**. **7.00** Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Mike Morris. News at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** and **9.00**; cartoon at **7.25**; sport at **7.40**; pop music at **7.55** and postbag at **8.35**. After Nine is presented by Jayne Irving, with guest star Jo Richardson MP **9.25** Thames News Headlines. **9.30** Schools: Making a see-saw **9.42** How kites contributed to the invention of helicopters **9.59** Angles of view **10.16** The village of Eyam **10.33** Part four of The Caucasian Chalk Circle by Brecht **11.03** New uses for computers **11.22** Seeing and Doing **11.39** Discussing pets with French children. **12.00** Button Moon, narrated by Robin Parkinson (r) **12.10** Allsorts **12.30** Wish You Were Here...? goes to Carinthian lakes in Austria, mid-Wales activity holidays and Malaysia. (r) **1.00** News at One with Leonard Parkin **1.20** Thames News **1.30** A Country Practice. Australian hospital drama. **2.30** On the Market. Susan Brookes and Mark Gorton with tips on the best food buys and the best of British cooking. **3.00** Amoebas to Zebras. Natural history experts Martin Banks, Liz Bomford and Tony Warburton are quizzed by Nigel Rees. With a mystery guest animal all the way from the Falklands. **3.25** Thames News headlines **3.30** Sons and Daughters. Australian drama following the lives of two families. **4.00** Children's ITV: Creepy Crawlies **4.10** Batfink (r) **4.20** Sooty. Sooty, Sweep and Soo enlist the help of a computer to find the perfect date for Mathew. With guest star Anna Karen **4.45** Y.E.S. **5.15** Connections. **5.45** News with Alastair Stewart. **6.00** Thames News with John Andrew and Paul Greene. **6.25** Help! **6.30** Crossroads. Sam Benson gets in the way of Nicola's plans. **7.00** This is Your Life. Presented by Eamonn Andrews. **7.30** Coronation Street. Bet is faced with a difficult choice. (Oracle) **8.00** Sporting Triangles. Sports quizz presented by Nick Owen. Guests are striker Gary Lineker from Barcelona, snooker star Willie Thorne, Jimmy Greaves, Virginia Leng, Tessa Sanderson and gymnast Suzanne Dando. **8.30** Chance in a Million. Simon Callow and Brenda Blethyn come to mischief again on a weekend visit to Alison's parents. They are not impressed by luckless Tom. **9.00** The Equalizer. McCall's librarian friend is found murdered. (Oracle) **10.00** News at Ten presented by Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall. Weather followed by Thames news headlines. **10.30** The Budget. Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, Roy Hattersley MP, discusses yesterday's budget. **10.40** Film: The Burning Bed (1984). Farrah Fawcett plays battered wife Francine Hughes, with Paul LeMat as brutal husband Mickey. Directed by Robert Greenwald. **12.30** That's Hollywood. A look at the work of Gene Wilder, with clips from Blazing Saddles, The Producers and Young Frankenstein. **12.40** Night Thoughts with the Rev Wynne Lewis. Closedown.



The eyes have it: Marlene Dietrich stars as a notorious prostitute in the 1932 film Shanghai Express (Ch4, 2.30pm)

CHANNEL 4

12.15 Their Lordships' House. Highlights of yesterday's debates. (r) **2.30** Film:Shanghai Express" (1932). Marlene Dietrich plays Shanghai Lily aboard the Shanghai Express from Peking, with Clive Brook as Captain Harvey, her former lover. Directed by Josef von Sternberg. **4.00** Mavis on Four. Mavis Nicholson looks at the changes in our standard of living since the Second World War. With 12 guests born in the babyboom year of 1947. **4.30** Countdown. Today Glasgow police officer Jim Deeney is in the chair. **5.00** Chateauvallon. (r) With subtitles. **6.00** The Marketing Mix. This last programme in the series looks at chocolate. (Oracle) (r) **6.30** The Making Of Britain. The first part in this new series looks at the Anglo-French rivalry in the 18th century and how it shaped British foreign policy. **7.00** Channel 4 News. Presented by Peter Sissons and Nicholas Owen. **7.50** Comment from a leading Plaid Cymru politician.Followed by weather. **8.00** Tom Keating On Impressionism. Today a look at Monet's techniques in painting snow. (Oracle) (r) **8.30** Diverse Reports. The play the public were not allowed to see: Perdition, which was banned two days before it was due to open at the Royal Court Theatre. Writer Jim Allen and producer Ken Roach defend the play that accused wartime Zionists of collaborating with the Nazis in Hungary. (see Choice) **9.00** The Media Show. A new fortnightly magazine programme, presented by Muriel Gray. This week looks at the relationship between Hollywood and the military, with reference to the film Platoon. (see Choice) **10.00** Tickets for the Titanic: Checkpoint Chiswick. The third of three one-hour black comedies, with Hywel Bennett as Brian Stebbings. (see Choice) **11.00** Ask Dr Ruth. Dr Ruth Westheimer, an American sexologist, talks to Helen Gurley Brown. **11.30** Film: Moment of Decision" (1962). Ray Barrett stars with Michael Same and Michael Aspel in this film about a nursemaid who loses the child she is looking after. Directed by John Knight. **12.00** Sing Out. Gospel concert featuring Sal Solo, the London Community Choir, Candy Devine, Crawford Bell and the Massed Male Voice Choirs. **12.25** Their Lordships' House. Ends at **12.40**. Today's proceedings from the House of Lords. Ends at **12.30**.

VARIATIONS

BBC1 WALES: **5.35pm-6.00** Wales Today **6.35-7.00** Jukes **12.10am-12.15** News and weather SCOTLAND: **10.50am-11.00** Dateman **5.35pm-7.00** Reporting Scotland **10.10-11.35** Sportscene NORTHERN IRELAND **11.05am-11.35** The Marble Arch Caves **5.35pm-5.40** Today's Sport **5.40-6.00** Inside Ulster **6.35-7.00** The Video Picture Show **11.05-11.35** Ninnaxzz **12.35-12.50** The World of UB40 **12.50-12.55** News and weather ENGLAND: **6.25pm-7.00** Regional news magazine.

BBC2 NORTHERN IRELAND: **11.17am-12.2pm** Ceefax.

ANGLIA As London except: **12.30pm** Gardens for All **1.30** News **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00-6.35** About Anglia **12.25 am** Lemon Angle. Closedown

BORDER As London except: **12.30 pm 1.00** Face The Press **1.20-1.30** Border News **3.30-4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00-6.35** Lookaround **12.20 am** Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: **1.20** News **1.30-2.30** Paper Dolls **6.00-6.35** News **12.30 am** Jobfinder **1.30** Closedown

CHANNEL As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Paul Coia Show **1.20-2.30** Hart to Hart **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00-6.35** Channel Report **8.30-9.00** Hardwicke House **10.30-10.40** Mike Harris Band **12.30 am** Closedown

GRAMPIAN As London except: **12.30 pm-1.00** Gardening Time **1.20-1.30** News **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00-6.35** North Tonight **12.30 am** News, Closedown

GRANADA As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Human Face of Japan **1.20** Granada Reports **1.30-2.30** Hart to Hart **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **6.00** Granada Reports **6.25** This is Your Right **6.30-7.00** Crossroads **12.30am** Closedown

HTV WEST As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Gardening Time **1.20** News **1.30-2.30** Randall & Hopkirk (Deceased) **6.00-6.35** News **12.30am** Closedown

HTV WALES As HTV West except: **6.00pm-6.35** Wales at Six

SCOTTISH As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Gardening Time **1.20** News **1.30** Live at One-Thirty **2.00-2.30** Wish You Were Here...? **3.30-4.00** Encounter **5.15-5.45** Blockbusters **6.00-6.35** Scotland Today **12.30am** Late Call, Closedown

TSW As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Gardens for all **1.20-1.30** News **3.00-3.30** Mary **5.15-5.45** Crossroads **6.00** Today South West **6.30-7.00** Emmerdale Farm **12.30am** Postscript, Closedown

TVS As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Coast to Coast People **1.20** News **1.30-2.30** Hart to Hart **3.30-4.00** Young Doctors **5.15-5.45** Blockbuster **6.00-6.35** Coast to Coast **12.30am** Company, Closedown

TYNE TEES As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Link **1.20-1.30** News **6.00-6.35** Northern Life **12.30am** Portrait of a Saint, Closedown

ULSTER As London except: **1.20pm-1.30** Lunchtime **3.30-4.00** History of The Grand Prix **6.25-6.35** Ask Anne **12.30 am** News, Closedown

YORKSHIRE As London except: **12.30pm-1.00** Lunchtime Live **1.20** News **1.30-2.30** Falcon Crest **6.00-6.35** Calendar **12.30am** Jobfinder **1.30** Closedown

S4C Starts: **11.10 am** Ysgolion **11.45** Interval **12.05pm** Film: The Bride Came COD" **1.45** Their Lordships' House **2.00** Countdown **2.30** Tom Keating on Pasmanos **3.00** Last Sailors **4.00** Ffalabalam **4.15** Corachod **4.30** Thorongi **5.00** Bladowcar **5.30** Hogan's Heroes" **6.00** Brookside **6.30** Maws on 4 **7.00** Newyddion Saith **7.30** Caryl **8.00** Hel Straeon **8.45** Ifas HFn Wyln, Mr Borrow **9.30** Sewcar **10.10** Film: Women of Willmar **12.00** Diverse Reports **12.30am** Closedown

Radio 1

On medium wave. Stereo on VHF News on the half-hour from **6.30am** until **8.30pm** then **10.00** and **12.00** midnight. **5.30am** Adrian John **7.00** Mike Smith's Breakfast Show **9.30** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **12.45** Simon Mayo **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat **5.45** Bruno Brookes (incl Top 30 Album Chart) **7.30** Tom Robinson **10.00-12.00** John Peel. **VHF stereo 1 and 2: 4.00am** As Radio 2 **10.00pm** As Radio 1 **12.00-4.00am** As Radio 2

Radio 2

On Medium wave. Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1) News on the hour. Headlines **5.30am, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30** Sports Desks **6.30am, 7.31, 8.31, 12.02, 1.05, 3.02, 4.02, 5.05, 6.02, 6.45** (mf only) **4.00am** Colin Berry **5.30** Ray Moore **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** David Jacobs **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **4.00** Vince Hill **5.05** Chris Serle **7.00** Folk on 2 **9.30** The Folk Bands of Scotland **9.00** Listen to the Band **10.00** Billy on Byng **10.30** The Golden Years **11.00** Brian Matthew **1.00am** Patrick Lunt **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk (until 6.30) **7.00** News **7.09** Twenty-four Hours: News **7.30** Development '87 **7.45** Network UK **8.00** News **8.09** Reflections **8.15** Classical Record Review **8.30** Hoax **9.00** News **9.09** Review of the British Press **9.15** The World Today **9.30** Financial News followed by: Look Ahead **9.45** Choirs of Britain **10.00** News **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** My Word **11.00** News **11.09** News About Britain **11.15** People and Pets **11.25** A Letter From Wales (until **11.30**) **12.00** Radio Newsreel **12.15** Masterpiece in Miniature **12.25** The Farming World **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** News **1.09** Twenty-four Hours: News **1.30** Development **2.00** Outlook, opening with News **2.45** Report on Religion **3.00** Radio Newsreel **3.15** At Home With . . . **3.30** After Henry **4.00** News **4.09** Commentary **4.15** Rock Salad **4.45** The World Today **5.00** News **5.09** A Letter from Wales **6.00** News **9.09** Twenty-four Hours: News **8.30** Assignment **9.00** News **8.01** Network UK **8.15** Soccer Special **10.00** News **10.09** The World Today **10.25** A Letter From Wales **10.30** Financial News **10.45** Reflections **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.09** Commentary **11.15** Good Books **11.30** Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty **12.00** News **12.09** News About Britain **12.15** Radio Newsreel **12.30** After Henry **1.00** Jazz **1.01** Outlook **1.30** Wavequide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** Technologies for the 21st Century **2.00** News **2.09** Review of the British Press **2.15** Network UK **2.30** Assignment **3.00** News **3.09** News About Britain **3.15** The World Today **3.30** The Drugs Trail — The Traffickers **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Soccer Special (until 4.45) **5.45** The World Today. All times GMT.

Radio 3

6.35 Open University (vhf only) Open Forum: University Magazine **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.05** Morning Concert. Elgar, Dream children, Op 43 (LPO under Sir Adrian Boult); Paganini, arr Schumann, Caprice in E, Op 9: (La chasse). With Igor Oistrakh (violin) and Natalia Zertsalova (piano); Handel, ballet music (Alcina, Act 3), English Baroque Soloists under John Eliot Gardiner; Sibelius, Prelude and Suite No 1: The Tempest (RLPO under Sir Charles Groves). **8.00** News **8.05** Morning Concert (cont) Purcell, Magicians' Dance and "Pluto Arise"; Circe. With Christopher Keyte (bass); (Academy of Ancient Music directed by Christopher Hogwood); Koussevitsky, Andante, with Frantisek Posta (double-bass) and Josef Hala (piano); Grieg, Suite No 1: Peer Gynt (Philadelphia Orchestra under Eugene Ormandy); Mozart, Aria from The Magic Flute, Act 1 (Dresden State Orchestra under Sir Colin Davis); Kodaly, The Peacock (Philarmonia Hungarica under Antal Dorati). **9.00** World Service News **9.10** This Week's Composer. Lully: Le bourgeois gentilhomme (excerpts), with Collegium Musicum de Paris, directed by Gustav Leonhardt, with Dorothea Jungmann (soprano). **10.00** Martin Roscoe (piano) plays Schubert Sonatas: in A flat and in E flat. **10.40** Franz Schmidt. Quartet No 1 in A (Allegri String Quartet). **11.30** Matinée musicale. Reznicek, Overture; Dukas, Villanelle; Gilbert Vinter, Hunter's Moon; Elgar, Three Bavarian Dances; Massenet, La Vierge (BBC Concert Orchestra). **12.30** Keith Jarrett. In the second of seven programmes, Ian Carr looks at the work of a trio formed by this American pianist and composer in 1968. **1.00** News **1.05** Concert Hall. Live recital by the Hanson Quartet: Haydn, string quartet in D minor, Op 76 No 2; Janacek, String quartet No 1 (The Kreutzer Sonata). **2.00** Synrox. Schmitt, Suite en rocaille Op 84; Michael Berkeley, Nocturne; Ropartz, Prélude, marine et chansons **2.50** Record review (Saturday's broadcast) **4.00** Choral Evensong. Live from Portsmouth Cathedral. Includes Responses; Psalms: 93, 94; Reading from Jeremiah 20; Canticles: Purcell in G minor; Reading from John 8; Voluntary: Adagio in E by Bridge. **5.00** World Service News **5.10** Midweek Choice **6.55** News **7.00** Mendelssohn Songs. Last of four programmes includes Der Blumenkranz; Hirtenlied; Romanze No 2; An die Entfernte; Gondellied; Schilflied. With Meldwyn Davies (tenor) and Iain Ledingham (piano). **7.30** Science on 3. Presented by Colin Tudge. **8.15** Tippett. Quartet No 4 (Lindsay string quartet) **8.40** Six Continents. Presented by Angus McDermid. **9.00** BBC Symphony Orchestra. Dvorak, Te Deum and Sibelius, Symphony No 4 in A minor; Szymanowski, Ballet pantomime: Harnasie (first UK performance). With the BBC Singers, BBC Symphony Chorus, Ann Evans (soprano) and Graham Clark (tenor) and Rodney Friend (violin). Conductor Sir John Pritchard. Includes interval reading at 9.55. **11.00** First Night. Novelist Paul Bailey reviews Six Characters in Search of an Author, by Pirandello, at the National's Olivier Theatre. **11.05** Chamber Music from Manchester. Britten, Six Hölderlin Fragments, Op 61 (first UK broadcast); Schoenberg, Eight Songs, Op 6. With Marilyn Hill (tenor) and Graham Johnson (piano). **11.57** News

Radio 4

On long wave (s) stereo on VHF **5.55** Shipping **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** prayer for the Day (s) **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.30, 8.30** News Summary **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** Today's News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.57** Weather; Travel **9.00** News **9.05** Money Box Budget Call. Your chance to discuss yesterday's Budget. Call 01-580 4411. Lines open from 9.00am. **10.00** News; Gardeners' Question Time, from the Burbage Allotment and Gardening Association in Leicestershire. **10.30** Morning Story. Call Me Lizzy, by John H Miller. **10.45** Daily Service (s) **11.00** News; Travel; The Way the Normans Rode. An account by the late Wynford Vaughan-Thomas of his 1983 journey along the Normans' route to South Wales. **11.48** Enquire Within. Dilly Barlow answers your questions and queries. **12.00** You and Yours. Consumer affairs with John Howard. **12.27** Proof, by Dick Francis, dramatized in eight parts (5) (s) **12.55** Weather **1.00** The World at One. News **1.40** The Archers **1.55** Shipping **2.00** News; Woman's Hour, with Sarah Dunant and guest of the week Tom Conti. **3.00** News; The Afternoon Play: Learning, by Anthony Walters (s) **3.47** Time for Verse. George MacBeth presents poems about animals: 2: Domestic animals. **4.00** News **4.05** File on 4 **4.45** Kaleidoscope Extra. Messianic. Michael Oliver presents a profile of the composer Oliver Messiaen, who gets inspiration for his work from Roman Catholicism and the natural world. **5.00** PM. News magazine **5.50** Shipping **5.55** Weather **6.00** The Six O'Clock News. Financial report. **6.30** Blandings. Summer Lightning, by P G Wodehouse (s) **7.00** News **7.05** The Archers **7.20** Legacy of Empire. Nick Clarke discovers how Britain and its culture have left their mark on former colonies. **7.45** Rebels (new series) 1: Al Capone — the story of the young boy from a peaceful and hard-working Italian family who became one of America's most violent and notorious gangsters. **8.15** The Thatcher effect (new series). A special Analysis enquiry into life in Britain under the leadership of Mrs Thatcher since 1979. How has her government's policy affected people's lives? 1: The Managers. **9.00** Thirty Minute Theatre. Dreams of Dublin Bay, by Frank Dunne (s) **9.30** A Sideways Look At ... Anthony Smith offers his own perspective on the world. **9.45** Kaleidoscope. Includes Six Characters at the National Theatre and three exhibitions at the V & A. **10.15** A Book at Bedtime. Love Lies Bleeding (8) by Edmond Crispin (s) **10.29** Weather **10.30** The World Tonight **10.40** The Budget. A statement on the Budget on behalf of the Labour Party by the Roy Hattersley MP. **10.50** The World Tonight **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.00** News; weather **12.33** Shipping **VHF** (available in England and S Wales only) as above except: **5.55-6.00am** Weather; Travel **11.00-12.00** For Schools: **11.00** Singing together (s) **11.20** Junior Drama Workshop **11.40** Reading Corner (s) **11.50** Poetry Corner **1.55-3.00pm** For Schools: **1.55** Listening Corner (s) **2.05** Looking at Nature — Amphibians (s) **2.20** Listening and Reading **2.30** Pictures in Your Mind **2.40** Real World: Problem Solving and Decision Making **5.50-5.55 PM** (continued) **11.30** Open University: **11.30** Modern Art: Pisarro **11.50** Continental Drift **12.10am** Musical Interlude **12.30-1.10am** Schools Night Time Broadcasting. Media Studies: Radio Workshop **12.30** 1: Making and Editing a Programme **12.50** 2: Radio Drama (s).

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FREQUENCIES: **Radio 1**:1053kHz/285m:1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2**: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3**: 1215kHz/247m:VHF-90-92.5; **Radio 4**: 200kHz/1500m: VHF-92-95; LBC:1152kHz/261m: VHF 97.3; **Capital**: 1548kHz/194m: VHF95.8; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service**: MF 648kHz/463m.

مكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES First published 1785

Hooligan element changes cup date

The hooligan element in football was yesterday responsible for the the FA Cup semi-final between Leeds and Coventry City at Hillsborough being switched to Sunday, the 12 by the Football Association after they had received a "direct request" from South Yorkshire police.

The request is clearly designed to minimize the possibility of crowd trouble, and the tie will kick off at 12.15 pm to prevent supporters drinking before the kick off. Leeds have a notorious hooligan minority, while Coventry supporters caused trouble in Derby on Saturday night after their quarter-final victory over Sheffield Wednesday.

Steve Clark, the FA Competitions' secretary, said: "We have received a direct request from South Yorkshire police to play the game on Sunday to enable them to have enough officers both inside and outside their ground. The kick-off time is self-explanatory. The police do not want the fans to have access to the pubs beforehand."

Clark admitted that the request had taken the FA "a bit by surprise". He added: "We thought that the police could have coped on a Saturday. They may have overreacted, they may not have done, but we have got to go along with what they advise us. If we don't we would take the can back if something went wrong.

"Although other Cup games have been played on a Sunday this season, it's very rare for semi-finals to be played then. I would think that the clubs won't be particularly pleased," Clark said.

Graham Hover, the Coventry secretary, said: "Traditionally, Cup semi-finals are played on a Saturday afternoon and that is when we would like to play it, but it's been switched because of a police request to the FA, and we are happy to go along with it.

"I don't think our supporters have got anything to do with it," he said. "They were well behaved at the game on Saturday. The biggest problem was on the way back. It involved a couple of coaches carrying a 100 supporters, not 600 as reported in one paper, and we are taking steps with the company involved to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Leeds claim they are happy with the switch. "We have had FA Cup ties against Telford and Wigan on a Sunday this season and had no crowd trouble." Maxwell Holmes, the Leeds deputy chairman, said. "We always go along with anything the police suggest to minimize the risk of crowd trouble."

Leeds will have talks with the FA before deciding how to distribute their 22,000 tickets for the Hillsborough match.

Four dropped by England in rugby clampdown

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

In an action without precedent in English rugby and, so far as I am aware, in the major rugby-playing nations, four international players have been dropped from England's next match as a disciplinary measure. A statement issued from the Rugby Football Union yesterday said that Wade Dooley, the Fylde lock, and three Bath players, Richard Hill, Gareth Chilcott and Graham Dawe, would not be considered for the Calcutta Cup match.

The statement read: "Following consultation with the president and officers of the Rugby Football Union, the selection committee have decided not to consider the following players for the England v Scotland match on April 4: Gareth Chilcott, Graham Dawe, Wade Dooley and Richard Hill. The team selected will be announced on Wednesday, March 25."

The decision, the result of the ill-disciplined match between Wales and England in Cardiff on March 7, follows a week of anguished discussion between the selectors and the RFU officers. Two days after the Welsh game, in which Phil Davies, the Welsh No. 8, sustained a fractured cheekbone after being punched by Dooley, the RFU announced that the behaviour of some England players was "totally unacceptable". Tony Gray, the Welsh coach, said yesterday: "As far as our own players are concerned, we have not felt there was any need to discipline them. Our players may not have been angels, but it would have been extremely difficult for anyone not to react to the intimidation that was going on."

The upshot is heightened because Hill was captain of England; his punishment, which comes on the day his wife was due to bear their first child, is not for his part in any foul play but because he was unable to control his warring forwards or to stem the penalties which England have been assessed in three successive internationals.

The RFU have acted exactly as any responsible club committee should act in cases in which their players are seen indulging in foul play, whether the referee sees the acts or not. Their decision will win approval from all those who have written letters of protest these last 10 days and who are aware of the additional need for self-discipline with a World Cup and club league competition just over the horizon. How tenable is the position of the selectors *vis-à-vis* the players, in circumstances where they must have been influenced by the demand for a hard line by RFU officers, is open to question though clearly, since they are already committed to taking England to Australasia for the World Cup this summer, resignation would have been difficult.

Dooley, the Blackpool policeman who has been labelled the villain of this particular piece, largely because of one-act of retaliation against Davies (who, seconds before, had punched John Hall, the England forward), said when he heard the statement: "I was in the wrong and I accept what has been dished out. I am sorry for the other players who have also been punished and I hope that we can put this behind us and get on with regaining our place in the squad for the World Cup."

It is a dignified acceptance. Had he been sent off – along with Davies – by Ray Megson, the Scottish referee, during the first five minutes of the game, it is no more than would have been his lot anyway. Dawe pays for a series of violent acts, notably in the French and Welsh internationals in what is his first season of international rugby.

Chilcott, who left the field at Cardiff with a badly raked back, may have found his past coming back to haunt him; he has worked hard to rid himself of a "hard-man" image and make himself one of the four best props in the country. His behaviour this season has been no worse than anyone else.

Hill's punishment is an extension of the regulation which permits referees to send off captains of teams whose members misbehave. There must now be considerable doubt whether he could possibly captain England again, after four matches leading the national side; only a remarkable rehabilitation job over years rather than months with Bath – where he is the club captain – could restore that position.

Candidates for the captaincy are limited in the major rebuilding task for England's last "rehearsal" before the world cup in May: Jamie Salmon, the Harlequins centre, Mike Harrison, the Wakefield wing, even Les Cusworth, the Leicester captain, were he to be invited back as stand-off half though he has had no involvement with England since winning the last of his ten caps three years ago.

The scrum-half position must be between Richard Harding (Bristol) and David Holmes (Sheffield); Nigel Redman (Bath) may return at lock, Brian Moore (Nottingham) at hooker and, if fit, Paul Rendall (Wasps), Martin Whitcombe (Bedford) or Lee Johnson (Coventry) at loosehead prop. Ironically, Chilcott might not even have been in the team at Cardiff had Rendall not been injured against France.



The strain in Spain: Paul Sturrock, Dundee United's star forward, has his leg muscles stretched in preparation for their UEFA Cup quarter-final against Barcelona tonight



Richard Hill
Aged 25, the Bath scrum half, has eight caps, good disciplinary record.



Wade Dooley
Aged 29, the Fylde lock forward, has 12 caps, good disciplinary record.



Graham Dawe
Aged 26, the Bath hooker, has three caps, good disciplinary record.



Gareth Chilcott
Aged 30, the Bath prop forward, has five caps and has been sent off twice.

Ferguson to check on Hughes

Manchester United's manager, Alex Ferguson, and director, Bobby Charlton, flew to Barcelona yesterday to check on the former United forward, Mark Hughes. They will watch him playing against Dundee United in tonight's UEFA Cup second leg at the Nou Camp Stadium.

Ferguson wants to satisfy himself about every detail of a possible return by Hughes to United before proceeding any further with his enquiries. He said: "I am going out with an open mind and to find out the exact position. A lot of things have to be explored before we can even think of making any moves."

There are huge question marks about the possibility of Hughes returning to Old Trafford. United sold him to Barcelona for £1.8m last summer, and even at half that fee – and a massive cut in his salary of £250,000 a year plus bonuses – it is doubtful if United would pursue their interest.

● The Football Association yesterday gave a polite "no thank you" to an offer from Wembley to stage the FA Cup semi-final between Tottenham and Watford. The FA have chosen Villa Park for the tie, which has not been enthusiastically welcomed by the two London clubs.

The FA press officer Glen Kirton said yesterday: "The FA Council considered the matter of semi-finals sometime ago and one of the things decided was against holding semi-finals at Wembley."

Lendl hopeful of speedy recovery

From Richard Evans, Miami

Ivan Lendl, who underwent arthroscopic surgery on his left knee last week, had the stitches removed here yesterday and hopes to return to the Grand Prix circuit for the Japan Open in Tokyo, which starts on April 13.

The sudden decision to operate on the torn cartilage, which was taken in Los Angeles after an exhibition with John McEnroe, means that Lendl will definitely miss the WCT Dallas Final next month as well as a tournament in Chicago.

However the world's top-ranked player is in much better spirits now than he was during the Lipton international players' championships at Key Biscayne 10 days ago.

"The knee bothers me," he said then. "I don't know how much is physical and how much is just in my mind, but I know it is affecting the way I play."

That much was obvious when Lendl seemed strangely submissive during his straight-sets defeat at the hands of Miloslav Mecir.

The television commentator, Fred Stolle, had been casting a sympathetic eye on Lendl's condition because the former Wimbledon finalist underwent the same operation, also on his left knee, last week.

"It should not take him long to recover considering how fit he is generally," Stolle said. "Even at 50, the doctor has told me I should be able to play some Grand Masters tournaments in a few weeks."

Like many observers, Stolle had wondered why Lendl was so reluctant to hit top-spin backhands against Mecir.

"Now it is obvious," Stolle said. "With the kind of knee we have been suffering from, you can't put sufficient weight on it to make that shot."

Given the workload he will heap on himself, Lendl should be stronger than ever by the time he defends his French Open title in Paris in May.

India face a problem

New Delhi (AP) – India may face a substantial fine and suspension from Davis Cup competition if they follow their standing policy and refuse to meet Israel in the quarter-finals scheduled in July. An official of India's Sports Ministry said yesterday that Government officials are weighing what to do about the conflict between India's policy and its players' victory against Argentina at the weekend.

India has no diplomatic relations with Israel and usually does not enter into sports competitions with it. But India's victory and Israel's win against Czechoslovakia leave the teams scheduled to face each other. Each team won by a 3-2 margin. The Sports Ministry official said the matter will be decided at the "highest level".

Sour end spoils Linley's victory

By Alan Lee

Richard Linley tasted the extremes of racing's sweet and sour yesterday as he rode Gala's Image to a stunning victory in Cheltenham's Arkle Challenge Chase but dislocated his right shoulder. For Linley, it was a first winner over fences since his tragic 14-month absence through injury, which many thought would end his career. But even in the moment of triumph, fate cruelly decreed that he was not permitted to enjoy it.

Helped off the 25-1 winner of the two-mile novices championship, Linley screamed, "Don't touch my arm," as he manoeuvred through the pressing crowd to weigh in, where an official had to remove his helmet for him.

In the ambulance room, Linley ironically joined Phil Tuck, who had ridden the winner of the previous race on Gordon Richards's Tartan Tailor despite an attack of asthma, which forced him to give up his remaining rides.

Such pain was nothing new to Linley. He first put the shoulder out when riding Gaye Brief, for the same trainer-owner combination of Mercy Rimell and Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin, at Sandown Park last month.

He was then forced to miss a week's ride, and last night he was signed off for the remainder of the Festival meeting – which adds another twist to the increasingly confused West Tip story.

Only on Monday, Linley was engaged to ride West Tip in both the Gold Cup and Grand National by Michael Oliver, the trainer, when it became clear that Richard Dunwoody, his usual jockey, was not available for the first race. Now, Oliver will have to revise his plans yet again.

Mrs Rimell, the trainer, explained: "Richard dislocated his shoulder jumping the last fence and did extremely well to go on and win. But I have always said this is a good horse and I couldn't understand why he hadn't won over fences before today."

The day's later races brought contrasting fortunes for two female riders, Jacqui Oliver and Gee Armytage.

Miss Oliver, riding Aonoch, her father's horse – the 2-1 favourite for the Stayer's Hurdle – allowed her horse to run very wide on the home turn and was beaten into second place by Tommy Carmody, who gave the Irish their first winner of the meeting with Galmoy.

But in the next event, Miss Armytage, summoning a finish of which most professional men riders would have been proud, got up on the line to score a memorable victory on The Ellier in the Kim Muir Handicap Chase – and then survived a steward's inquiry.

The first day attendance of 36,935 was a remarkable 7,000 up on last year's figure.

Cox looks to have Clough's touch

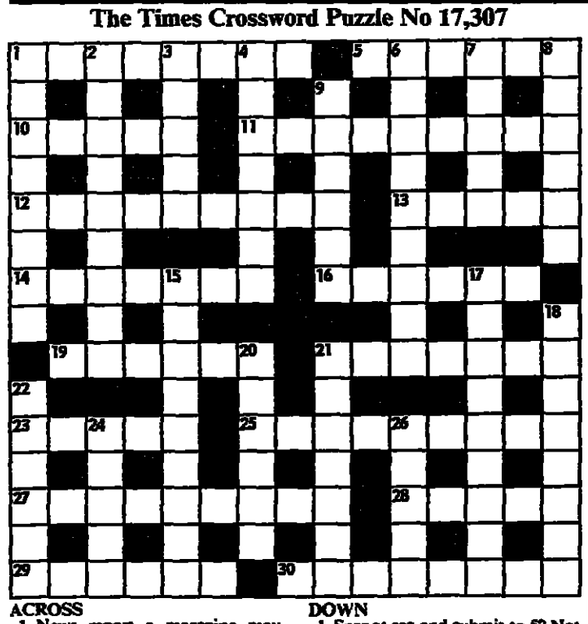
Arthur Cox, the Derby County manager, was paid the richest of compliments yesterday when his assistant Roy McFarland compared him, in managerial terms, to Brian Clough.

Derby will go top of the second division if they beat Blackburn tonight and McFarland, a key figure in the side which stormed into the first division under Clough 18 years ago, finds the comparison irresistible.

He said: "As men they are as different as possible. There is no similarity at all in their personal style, but as managers and taskmasters they have a lot in common.

"Above all they are both very demanding and operate to very high standards. They also believe that success is only achieved by investing in quality. Brian Clough created an era of success at Derby by bringing in the best talent available

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,307



ACROSS

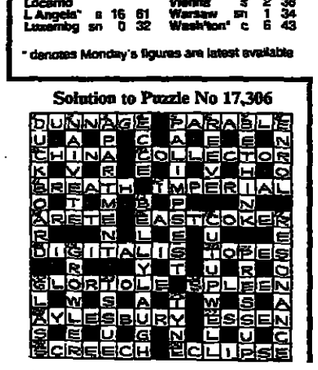
1 News report a magazine may have? (8).
5 Animating principle associated with runners (6).
10 Risk reverse, for example, in armed conflict (5).
11 Vehicle shelter outside university in N America (9).
12 Weekly column designed to make us laugh (5,4).
13 Oriental lake giving rise to fear (5).
14 Picture island with buried silver (7).
16 Put in a grave note concealed by doctor (6).
19 Seal, say, or bird? (6).
21 Organize regiment in a line (7).
23 Gather in the train-ferry (5).
25 Fellow-Iranians of old, funny people (9).
27 Writer whose support is in Germany? (9).
28 Maxim of Rechabite in low surroundings (5).
29 Southern firm to employ a Liverpudlian (6).
30 Most of the red cannon, perhaps? (8).

DOWN

1 Spar at sea and submit to 5? Not the first one (8).
2 Mysterious green lady of myth (9).
3 Husband could make this hole into a home (5).
4 Bill is on form for solfeggio, perhaps (7).
6 One who will agitate for a six-penny piece? (9).
7 State opposed to having a king – Missouri, possibly (5).
8 Artist and craftsman (6).
9 Extra accommodation here for girl on 7 (6).
15 Bonehead, amusing or otherwise (9).
17 Island where perhaps Father Brown received his headgear (9).
18 Represented as heroes in the Strand (3-5)
20 Alarm-signal upset John Knox, for example, in the end (6).
21 It measures the current encountered in a Continental sea (7).
22 Entertainment Londoners associate with Oxford (6).
24 Fielding's first miscellany? (5).
26 Monster encountered in 6's march north (5).

Concise Crossword, page 8

Solution to Puzzle No 17,306



WEATHER

General situation: A deep depression will move slowly across the northern North Sea, driving a strong and cold north-west airflow across Britain. Many areas will have bright or sunny intervals and showers. The showers over some northern areas will be heavy and prolonged at times, with sleet and snow over all high ground. In central and southern areas, the showers will begin as rain, but turn to sleet or snow. It will feel very cold, particularly in the north, with a strong to gale force north-west wind in many places. Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Remaining cold.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C	F
Ajaccio	f	13	55
Akrotiri	c	14	57
Alex'dria	f	17	63
Algiers	s	15	59
Amst'dam	c	5	41
Athens	c	12	54
Bahrain	s	28	82
Barbados*	s	29	84
Barcelna	s	12	54
Beirut			
Belgrade	f	1	34
Berlin	sn	1	34
Bermuda*	f	19	66
Biarritz	c	10	50
Bonte'x	c	10	50
Brussels	d	5	41
Budapst	f	5	41
B Aires*	s	25	79
Cairo	s	19	66
Cape Tn	s	21	70
C'blanca	s	18	64
Chicago*	f	4	39
Ch'church			
Cologne	r	1	34
C'phagn	s	0	32
Corfu	f	9	48
Dublin	r	10	50
Dubrovnik			
Faro	s	17	63
Florence	s	4	39
Frankfurt	sn	0	32
Funchal	r	15	59
Geneva	c	4	39
Gibraltar	c	15	59
Helsinki	s	-3	27
Hong K	th	20	68
Innsbruck	f	2	36
Istanbul	f	4	39
Jeddah	s	34	93
Jo'burg*	c	19	66
Karachi	s	28	82
L Palmas	c	21	70
Le Touqt	c	8	46
Lisbon	s	15	59
Locarno			
L Angels*	a	16	61
Luxembg	sn	0	32
Madrid	s	12	54
Majorca	f	15	59
Malaga	s	17	63
Malta	f	15	59
Melb'rne	s	33	91
Mexico C*			
Miami*	c	26	79
Milan	s	9	48
Montreal*	sn	-1	30
Moscow	s	2	36
Munich	sn	-1	30
Nairobi	f	27	81
Naples	f	10	50
N Delhi	s	28	79
N York*	s	6	43
Nice	c	11	52
Oslo	c	-1	30
Paris	s	8	46
Peking	s	13	55
Perth	f	21	70
Prague	f	0	32
Reykjvik	f	-5	21
Rhodes	s	12	54
Rio de J	s	25	77
Riyadh	s	29	84
Rome	s	10	50
Salzburg	sn	-1	30
S F'risco*	s	13	55
Santiago*	s	31	88
S Paulo*	c	24	75
Seoul*	c	13	55
Sing'por			
Stkholm	c	-1	30
Strash'rg	sn	3	37
Sydney	s	24	75
Tangier	f	17	63
Tel Aviv	c	15	59
Tenerife	f	21	70
Tokyo	c	8	46
Toronto*	a	3	37
Tunis	c	14	57
Valencia	s	14	57
Vanc'ver	c	8	46
Venice	s	9	48
Vienna	s	2	36
Warsaw	sn	1	34
Washton*	c	6	43

* denotes Monday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	3.9	.07	7	45	sunny
Bridlington	2.5	.09	4	39	bright
Dunstr	2.3	.10	5	41	snow
Lowestoft	4.6	.01	6	43	sunny
Clacton	5.7	-	7	45	bright
Southend		.01	5	41	bright
Margate	6.7	-	8	46	bright
Folkestone	4.3	-	7	45	bright
Hastings					
Eastbourne	2.9	-	7	45	bright
Brighton	3.0	-	8	46	bright
Worthing	2.7	-	8	46	bright
Littlehmptn	2.8	-	8	46	bright
Bognor R	3.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Southsea	4.1	-	8	46	bright
Sandown	3.1	-	8	46	bright
Shanklin	3.1	-	8	46	bright
Bournemth	4.0	-	9	48	bright
Poole	3.6	-	9	48	cloudy
Swanage	3.1	-	9	48	bright
Weymouth	3.0	-	10	50	bright
Exmouth	0.8	-	9	48	cloudy
Talgmouth	1.3	-	9	48	cloudy
Torquay	2.3	-	10	50	bright
Falmouth	-	-	9	48	bright
Penzance	2.4	.02	10	50	bright
Scilly Isles	1.8	-	11	52	bright
Jersey	3.3	-	9	48	sunny
Guernsey	5.8	-	10	50	sunny
Newquay	2.4	-	-	-	cloudy
Ilfracombe	-	-	8	46	bright
Minehead	1.3	-	9	48	bright
B'pool Airpt	0.1	.01	6	43	rain
Morecambe	-	-	6	43	shower
Douglas	-	.01	8	46	rain
B'ham Airpt	2.8	-	7	45	shower
Bristol (Cnl)	1.1	-	7	45	cloudy
Carlisle	-	.02	7	45	rain
London	5.1	-	9	48	bright
Manchester	1.3	-	7	45	rain
N'cstl-n-Tyne	1.3	-	7	45	rain
Nottingham	4.9	-	8	46	sunny
Anglesey	0.1	.03	9	48	rain
Cardiff (Cnl)	2.5	-	9	48	cloudy
Colwyn Bay	-	.01	9	48	bright
Tenby	1.3	-	9	48	cloudy
Aberdeen	0.4	.09	3	37	snow
Edinburgh	-	.02	6	43	sleet
Eskdalemuir	-	.06	6	43	snow
Glasgow	-	.05	6	43	sleet
Kinloss	-	.12	7	45	snow
Lerwick	-	.06	1	34	snow
Prestwick	-	.24	7	45	rain
Stornoway	-	.24	9	48	drizzle
Tiree	0.1	.30	8	46	rain
Wick	-	.28	3	37	snow
Belfast	0.5	.03	9	48	rain

These are Monday's figures

Buying: The Times overseas
Austria Sch 25; Belgium B Frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 200; Cyprus 80 cents; Denmark Dkr 12.00; Finland Mkk 9.00; France F 9.00; W Germany DM 3.50; Gibraltar 70p; Greece Dr 200; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2,700; Luxembourg Lf 45; Madeira Esc 200; Malta 35c; Morocco Dir 12.00; Norway Kr 10.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 200; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 200; Sweden Skr 12.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 1.00; USA $2.00; Yugoslavia Din 800.

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.25	7.2	3.48	7.3
Aberdeen	2.53	4.1	2.56	4.3
Avonmouth	8.51	13.5	9.11	13.2
Belfast	12.21	3.1	12.42	3.5
Cardiff	8.36	12.4	8.56	12.1
Devonport	7.24	5.5	7.44	5.3
Dover	12.21	6.8	12.34	6.5
Falmouth	6.54	5.3	7.14	5.1
Glasgow	2.31	4.5	2.26	4.9
Harwich	1.21	4.0	1.45	3.9
Holyhead	11.56	5.6	-	-
Hull	7.39	7.4	8.06	7.5
Ilfracombe	7.38	9.2	7.57	9.1
Leith	4.07	5.4	4.25	5.6
Liverpool	12.41	9.3	12.56	9.5
Lowestoft	11.20	2.2	11.22	2.5
Margate	1.28	4.8	1.52	4.7
Milford Haven	7.51	7.1	8.09	7.0
Newquay	6.41	7.1	7.00	7.0
Oban	7.11	4.1	7.36	3.9
Penzance	6.25	5.5	6.46	5.4
Portland	8.33	2.1	9.05	2.0
Portsmouth	12.55	4.6	1.09	4.5
Shoreham	12.39	6.3	12.53	6.2
Southampton	12.21	4.5	12.31	4.5
Swansea	7.57	9.6	8.12	9.5
Tees	5.15	5.3	5.23	5.5
W'ton-on-Nze	1.14	4.2	1.37	4.2

Tide measured in metres: 1m-3.2808ft.

THE POUND

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.42	2.30
Austria Sch	21.30	20.20
Belgium Fr	63.40	60.00
Canada $	2.167	2.057
Denmark Kr	11.42	10.82
Finland Mkk	7.60	7.10
France Fr	10.06	9.56
Germany Dm	3.04	2.88
Greece Dr	222	208
Hong Kong $	12.77	12.17
Ireland Pt	1.143	1.083
Italy Lira	2150	2040
Japan Yen	264	249
Netherlands Gld	3.43	3.25
Norway Kr	11.50	10.90
Portugal Esc	230.5	220.50
South Africa Rd	4.35	3.65
Spain Pta	210.50	200.50
Sweden Kr	10.63	10.08
Switzerland Fr	2.53	2.40
USA $	1.595	1.585
Yugoslavia Dnr	1040	950

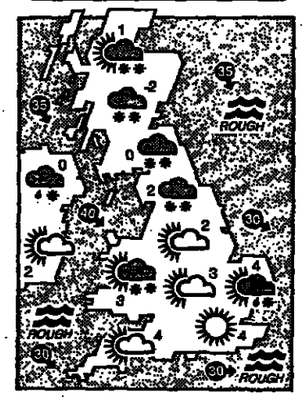
Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 394.5

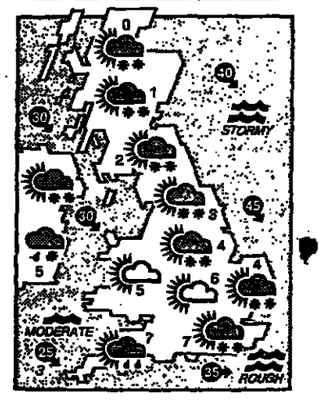
London: The FT Index closed up 10.3 at 1586.9.

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AM



PM



YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	c 10	50	Guernsey	d 7	45
B'mingham	c 10	50	Inverness	c 6	43
Blackpool	c 7	45	Jersey	c 8	46
Bristol	c 9	48	London	c 11	52
Cardiff	c 8	46	M'nchester	c 9	48
Edinburgh	c 9	48	Newcastle	f 10	50
Glasgow	r 8	46	R'caldway	f 11	52

LONDON

Monday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am,3C (37F). Humidity: 6 pm, 62 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 5.1hr. Bar. mean sea level, 6 pm, 1019.3 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 6.39 pm to 5.37 am
Bristol 6.49 pm to 5.47 am
Edinburgh 6.51 pm to 5.49 am
Manchester 6.48 pm to 5.45 am
Penzance 7.01 pm to 5.59 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Scilly Isles 11C (52F); lowest day max: Larwick 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Diabelg, Cape Wrath, 0.39in; highest sunshine: Jersey 8.3hr.

Sun rises: 6.09 am
Sun sets: 6.09 pm
Moon sets 7.01 am
Moon rises 10.11 pm
Last quarter March 22

MANCHESTER

Monday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7C (45F); min 6 pm to 6 am,1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.3hr.

NOON TODAY



Income tax cut 'to sharpen incentives'

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

The centrepiece of the Budget, a cut in the basic rate of income tax by 2p in the £ to 27p, was a more modest reduction than many had expected.

And by increasing the main personal allowances by only 4 per cent, in line with inflation, the Chancellor steered clear of specific measures to help improve work incentives at the lower end of the income scale.

The single person's allowance was raised by £90 to £2,425, while the married man's allowance rose by £140 to £3,795.

The cost of the 2p cut in the basic rate is £1.91 billion in 1987-88, £2.69 billion in 1988-89. The reduction will be worth £3 a week to a man on average earnings.

"Lower rates of tax sharpen up incentives and stimulate enterprise, which in turn is the only route to better economic performance", the Chancellor said. He also cited the international consensus for lower tax rates.

Yesterday's tax reductions will find their way into pay packets in the second half of May, with employees receiving the additional income in the first pay packet after May 17.

PERSONAL TAX ALLOWANCES

	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£
Single person	2,425	2,335
Married man	3,795	3,655
Wife's earned income allowance	2,425*	2,335
Additional personal allowance and widow's bereavement allowance	1,370	1,320
Blind persons allowance	540	360
Age allowance (age 65 or over)		
single	2,960	2,850
married	4,675	4,505
Age allowance (age 80 or over)		
single	3,070	2,850
married	4,845	4,505

* This is the maximum.
Age allowance is reduced down to personal allowance levels by £2 for every £3 of excess income over £9,400 in 1986-87, £9,800 in 1987-88.

The basic rate of income tax was 33 per cent when the Conservatives took office in 1979, although there was a reduced rate band, taxed at 25 per cent.

The standard rate was cut to 30 per cent in the June 1979 Budget, and the reduced rate band was abolished. The next cut in basic rate, from 30 to 29 per cent, was in last year's Budget.

Because the Conservatives' first Budget removed the reduced rate band, whereby the first £750 of taxable income was taxed at 25 per cent, yesterday's Budget has, in a sense, only moved towards the position of eight years ago.

However, the new basic rate of tax covers a far wider income range than the old reduced rate band.

Personal allowances and thresholds have been raised by more than would have been required simply to keep pace with inflation. Over-indexing allowances was the favoured method of reducing tax between the 1979 and 1986 Budgets.

Only in 1981 did the Government fail to raise allowances and thresholds by at least as much as inflation.

Since the Government took office in May 1979 tax allowances have been raised by 22 per cent more than was required to match inflation, Mr Lawson said yesterday.

The top rates of income tax were left unchanged, ranging from 40 to 60 per cent. But the Chancellor announced some restructuring of the upper rate thresholds, designed to prevent excessively large marginal rates through the income scale.

The 40 per cent threshold was raised by £700 to £17,900. But the threshold at which people start paying tax at the 45 per cent rate was raised by only £200 to £20,400.

Apart from cutting the basic rate and raising allowances by more than inflation, officials concede that little progress has been made on simplifying the tax system and, in particular, streamlining the vast array of allowances that can be set against income tax.

But such streamlining, it is said, would be a logical element in the Government's reform of personal taxation, due to take effect in the early 1990s.

The starting rate of income tax remains higher in Britain than in most other countries, although the comparison is complicated by different systems for allowances and, in some countries, the existence of local income tax.

Figures compiled by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development show that the starting rate of national income tax for a married couple ranges from 2.5 per cent in Portugual, to 35 per cent – and in some cases 60 per cent – in Ireland.

In the United States, the starting rate is 11 per cent, in France 19 per cent and in Germany 22 per cent. Japan's starting rate is a low 10.5 per cent, although local income taxes make the actual rate paid much higher.

Among specific allowances, the Chancellor announced a new age allowance for the over-eighties. The single age allowance for these people is £3,070, the married allowance £4,845, £110 and £170 respectively higher than the normal age allowances.

The single age allowance for those under 80 was raised by £110 to £2,960 and the married allowance from £170 to £4,675. The age allowance limit was raised from £9,400 to £9,800.

The blind person's allowance was increased from £360 to £540, to stand at three times its level when the Government took office.

MARRIED COUPLES – INCOME ALL EARNED – ANNUAL FIGURES

	Charge for 1986-87		Proposed charge for 1987-88		Reduction in tax after proposed change	
Income	Income tax (£)	% of total income in tax	Income tax (£)	% of total total income taken in tax	Income tax (£)	As a % of total income
4,000	100	2.5	55	1.4	45	1.1
5,000	390	7.8	325	6.5	65	1.3
6,000	680	11.3	595	9.9	85	1.4
7,000	970	13.9	865	12.4	105	1.5
8,000	1,260	15.8	1,135	14.2	125	1.6
9,000	1,550	17.2	1,405	15.6	145	1.6
10,000	1,840	18.4	1,675	16.8	165	1.6
12,000	2,420	20.2	2,215	18.5	205	1.7
14,000	3,000	21.4	2,755	19.7	245	1.8
16,000	3,580	22.4	3,295	20.6	285	1.8
18,000	4,160	23.1	3,835	21.3	325	1.8
20,000	4,740	23.7	4,375	21.9	365	1.8
25,000	6,703	26.8	6,195	24.8	508	2.0
30,000	9,000	30.0	8,486	28.3	515	1.7
40,000	14,153	35.4	13,631	34.1	522	1.3
50,000	19,910	39.8	19,381	38.8	529	1.1
60,000	25,910	43.2	25,381	42.3	529	0.9
70,000	31,910	45.6	31,381	44.8	529	0.8

Calculations assume that only the husband has earned income.

SINGLE PERSONS – INCOME ALL EARNED – ANNUAL FIGURES

	Charge for 1986-87		Proposed charge for 1987-88		Reduction in tax after proposed change	
Income	Income tax (£)	% of total income in tax	Income tax (£)	% of total total income taken in tax	Income tax (£)	As a % of total income
3,000	193	6.4	155	5.2	38	1.3
4,000	483	12.1	425	10.6	58	1.4
5,000	773	15.5	695	13.9	78	1.6
6,000	1,063	17.7	965	16.1	98	1.6
7,000	1,353	19.3	1,235	17.6	118	1.7
8,000	1,643	20.5	1,505	18.8	138	1.7
9,000	1,933	21.5	1,775	19.7	158	1.8
10,000	2,223	22.2	2,045	20.4	178	1.8
12,000	2,803	23.4	2,585	21.5	218	1.8
14,000	3,383	24.2	3,125	22.3	258	1.8
16,000	3,963	24.8	3,665	22.9	298	1.9
18,000	4,543	25.2	4,205	23.4	338	1.9
20,000	5,174	25.9	4,745	23.7	429	2.1
25,000	7,298	29.2	6,812	27.2	486	1.9
30,000	9,660	32.2	9,170	30.6	490	1.6
40,000	14,879	37.2	14,384	36.0	494	1.2
50,000	20,702	41.4	20,203	40.4	499	1.0
60,000	26,702	44.5	26,203	43.7	499	0.8
70,000	32,702	46.7	32,203	46.0	499	0.7



Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, with his wife Thérèse outside 11 Downing Street in the traditional pose yesterday before leaving for the Commons (Photograph: Graham Wood).

'Good for business' says CBI

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

The Confederation of British Industry clearly felt last night that its insistence on limited personal tax cuts and measures to stimulate lower interest rates had been vindicated.

Mr David Nickson, president, said the budget would reinforce business success. Lower government borrowing meant lower interest rates – "just what the CBI wanted".

He added: "We have always said we would judge the budget on how it affects the cost of borrowing. This should do the trick – the way is now clear for single-figure interest rates. Each percentage point drop saves British business £250 million a year.

"The personal tax changes present industry with a challenge. With British industry now much more competitive, this is the chance for us to win back our own home market."

Aims of Industry also welcomed the budget as "sound and almost excessively a non-election budget". The measures would be excellent for tax payers and small firms and should stimulate growth and employment.

Mr Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary, said: "This is a throw-away budget, not a give-away budget. The Chancellor has thrown away the chance to create jobs just as he has thrown away the oil revennes."

Mr Chris Pond, Director of the Low Pay unit, said that of the £2.5billion given away in tax cuts, most had gone to the better off.

"A family of four on half average earnings is now paying proportionately three times as much of its income in direct tax than when Mrs Thatcher came into office.

"Since 1978-79 the low-paid family has seen its direct tax bill increase by about £4 a week in real terms", Mr Pond said.

Miss Shirley Goodwin, general secretary of the Health Visitors' Association, said that health visitors and school nurses would be particularly concerned by the decision not to increase duty on alcohol and tobacco.

Miss Sue Slipman, director of the National Council for One-Parent Families, said Mr Lawson had ignored the need of 500,000 one-parent families living in poverty. A single parent on £80 a week would gain only 89p a week.

The National Children's Home said the Budget did little for families with children, particularly unemployed families.

CITY REACTION

Share prices surge before speech ends

The City gave a wholehearted welcome to the Budget with share prices surging strongly during the Chancellor's speech. Mr Lawson's proposals were judged good for inflation, good for interest rates and good for company profits.

Money markets are expecting a half per cent cut in bank base rates tomorrow and a further half per cent after that, taking base rates to below 10 per cent. That will lead to mortgage rate cuts later in the year. If anything, analysts say, Mr Lawson's forecast of 4½ per cent inflation is too pessimistic.

Bond markets reacted positively, with gilt edged prices leaping £1 during the speech. The lower-than-expected Public Sector Borrowing Requirement of £4 billion was judged prudent and highly attractive to overseas investors.

Before the Chancellor sat down analysts were revising their view that equity markets would suffer a bout of post-Budget depression after the sharp rises in share prices since the turn of the year.

"I like it and so will the market", Mr Kenneth Inglis, research director at stockbrokers Phillips and Drew, said. "He has not gone for a maximum giveaway on income tax yet still increased the chances of a Conservative victory. He has left the electorate with a choice – 25p income tax next year under the Tories or 29p under Labour."

The main Budget beneficiary would be the gilt edged market but equities would gain strength from a buoyant bond market. "I will now have to modify my view that shares were likely to have a quiet time after the budget", he said.

Mr Richard Jeffrey, director of economics at brokers Hoare Govett, said the Budget was reassuring. "People were afraid that he would be financially profligate in the interests of an election victory. I now expect a half point cut in base rates in the near term and another later in the year."

Tobacco shares, and the brewery and spirit groups, rose strongly in post-Budget trading with the decision not to change excise being welcomed by the industry and analysts. It is the first time since 1978 that tobacco has escaped the Chancellor's net.

Mr Nyren Scott-Malden, of Barclays de Zoete, said the no-change proposal was unexpected.

Mr John Spicer, brewery and distillers analyst at Kleinwort Grieveson Securities, said the Budget was a repeat of last year's good news for the sector, and should benefit brewery shares.

Concession promotes sharing in profits

The Budget included a strong move by the Chancellor to help British industry overcome one of its main problems, namely the inflexibility of the workforce.

He recommended the introduction of tax relief on profit-related pay (PRP) received as part of a registered scheme

The scheme proposed by the Chancellor is the least onerous of those debated in recent months and is designed to give maximum encouragement to both companies and employees to promote (PRP).

It is in broad line with the details outlined in a consultative document published in July 1986, but it will depart from this document in one important detail. The proportion of PRP which will be exempt from income tax has been increased from a quarter to a half. The relief will be available up to a ceiling of 20 per cent of total pay including PRP or £3,000, whichever is lower.

In the case of a married man on average earnings receiving 20 per cent of his pay in profit-related form, the proposed tax relief could be equivalent to as much as 4p off his basic rate of income tax. No time limit is envisaged for the availability of this tax relief, which is an advance on what was envisaged in the consultative document.

In the financial year 1988-89, the cost to the Government is expected to be about £50 million, although, as the take-up rate increases, this figure is expected to rise.

The Chancellor drew attention to the attractions of profit sharing or PRP in his 1986 Budget speech when he pointed out the benefits of the workforce having a direct personal interest in the success of their company.

He also highlighted the opportunities available under these schemes for employers to respond to changing market

The introduction of this tax relief is designed to stimulate the growth of PRP schemes and lead to a more flexibile pay system.

If a proportion of employees' pay is directly related to profits, the effect of a downturn in a company's trading activity would be mitigated by a reduction in its wages bill. Conversely, employees would automatically benefit when their company does well.

The proposed tax incentives encourage employees to support a pay system of this nature while the attractions to the employer are obvious. Their need to make redundancies in the event of changing market conditions will be considerably reduced.

British companies have been slow to introduce PRP schemes, but both employers and employees are becoming better informed about the mutual advantages of a more flexible system.

Changes in thresholds squeeze high payers

By Richard Thomson

The Chancellor did not cut the top rate of personal income tax from its present 60 per cent level as expected. And he has raised higher rate tax thresholds by less than basic rate thresholds.

The effect is that higher rate taxpayers will be contributing more to the overall tax take than before.

While the upper limit of the basic rate band is being raised in line with statuory indexation by £700, the threshold for 45 per cent taxpayers will go up by only £200 to £20,400.

For 50, 55 and 60 per cent taxpayers, the thresholds will remain unchanged at current levels for the next year.

Although the Conservative Government has cut the top tax rate from above 80 per cent to 60 per cent since 1979, the contribution of higher rate taxpayers to the overall tax take has risen over the same period.

This year's budget will push their contribution even higher, bringing in an extra £40 million to the Exchequer in the 1987-88 tax year and £80 million in the 1988-89 year.

HIGHER RATE INCOME TAX THRESHOLDS

1987-88		1986-87	
Taxable income	Rate	Taxable income	Rate
£0 to £17,900	27 %	£0 to £17,200	29 %
£17,901 to £20,400	40 %	£17,201 to £20,200	40 %
£20,401 to £25,400	45 %	£20,201 to £25,400	45 %
£25,401 to £33,300	50 %	£25,401 to £33,300	50 %
£33,301 to £41,200	55 %	£33,301 to £41,200	55 %
Over £41,200	60 %	Over £41,200	60 %

Investment income surcharge abolished from 1985-86.

Company car benefit 'still not taxed enough'

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The tax on Britain's three million company cars will rise by 10 per cent from April 1988, the Chancellor announced yesterday.

He told MPs: "The tax on company cars is still well short of the benefit".

While the fuel benefit tax was not increased, next year the driver of a 1.4 litre car will be taxed on a benefit of £480.

The changes mean an extra 29p a week for the driver of a company car up to 1.4 litres on a basic tax rate, who will pay £156.60 a year in tax. For cars between 1.4 and 2 litres the extra cost will be 36p a week. Drivers of cars over 2 litres will pay an extra 57p a week, £326.70 a year.

The taxable charges for company cars go up in 1988 to £580 for engine sizes up to 1.4 litres, to £770 for 1.4 to 2 litre cars and to £,1210 for cars over 2 litres.

In the top categories there will be an increase to £1,595 for cars costing between £19,250 and £29,000 and for cars over this price the taxable amount increases to £2,530.

The car makers were restrained in their protest about the increases while rejecting the view that the company car user is under-taxed.

Last year a sharp rise in company car taxation was announced to take effect this April. Changes in engine size categories will bring the tax breaks into line with forthcoming European exhaust emission legislation.

This year, 1987-88, the tax on a company car below 1.4 litres is to rise by 17 per cent from £450 to £540 and 22 per cent for drivers of larger cars. For cars with engine sizes between 1.4 and 2 litres the new tax will be £700 and for over 2 litre cars, £1,100.

Car makers fear the increased tax burden will accelerate the current trend to smaller cars.

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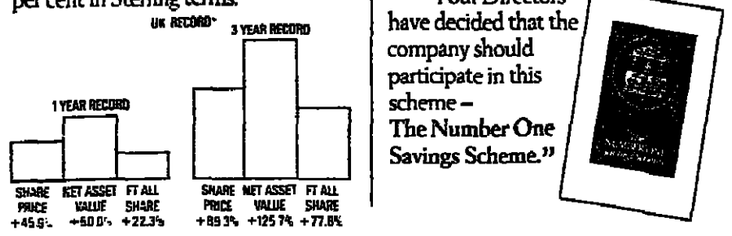
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CIVIL LIST

Royal Family getting 4.5% increase

By Alan Hamilton

A 4.5 per cent increase in the Civil List – the taxpayers' direct contribution towards the running expenses of the Royal Family – was announced yesterday. It conceals a doubling of the true cost of the monarchy in the past year.

In recent months the Queen's Flight has replaced its ageing Hawker Siddeley Andover propeller aircraft with two BAe 146 jets at a cost of about £40 million and the Royal Yacht Britannia has been taken into dock for a refit expected to cost about £10 million.

THE CIVIL LIST 1987-88

Amount (£'000s)	Last year
The Queen 4,326	4,136
Duke of Edinburgh 209.3	200.3
The Queen Mother 375	359.1
Princess Anne 130.4	124.8
Princess Margaret 127	121.5
Duke of York 50	20
Prince Edward 20	No change
Princess Alice 51.4	49.2
Refunded by the Queen:	
Duke of Gloucester 102.2	97.8
Duke of Kent 138	132
Princess Alexandra 131.5	125.8

Both items come from the defence budget, but if all costs are taken into account, including maintenance of royal palaces by the Department of the Environment, free postage from the Palace, and a contribution to royal tours by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the cost of maintaining the Crown last year approaches £80 million.

This year's Civil List, which covers direct costs such as the salaries and pensions of 340 staff employed by the Royal Household, amounts to £5,661,000 compared with £5,300,00 last year. The only significant change is in the case of the Duke of York, whose allowance went up from £20,000 to £50,000 on his marriage last year.

The increase, within government spending guidelines, assumes that palace staff, whose salaries are tied to equivalent Civil Service grades, will be awarded a 4.5 per cent pay rise this year.

The allowances of the Dukes of Gloucester and Kent and of Princess Alexandra are refunded to the Treasury by the Queen from her private income, which totals more than £1.5 million a year from the Duchy of Lancaster alone, and none of which is taxed.

The Treasury bill for the Civil List for the coming year is therefore reduced to £5,289,000.

THE TIMES BUDGET DIARY

The great unread

Fund managers all over Britain will find themselves knee-deep in circulars, video tapes and other Budget commentaries this morning, rushed to them by City economists who worked throughout the night in an attempt to beat their rivals. The Post Office in Throgmorton Street stayed open all night to handle the influx of mail. But with most of the literature finding its way, unread, into waste paper bins, it must rank as one of the biggest time-wasters in the City calender. "I don't know why they bother", one seasoned market man said. "We'll have listened to it on our radios, watched the summaries on the evening news, and read all about it in our morning newspapers on the way to work." Trevor Pullen, equities director at the Prudential, Britain's biggest fund manager with more than £20 billion under management, agrees. "I will put them all to one side with the firm intention of reading them at some stage, but eventually they will all be put into the bin, unread", he admits.

● The transparent liquid sipped by the Chancellor throughout his speech was not, I am assured, House of Commons regulation Malvern water. The sparkling mineral water was mixed with white wine to create a Yuppie "spritzer" cocktail. Alcohol is allowed inside the chamber only on Budget day.

Talking time

If the standard of questions in the House last night seemed lower than usual it was because opposition MPs had less time than usual to prepare their post-Budget attack. The Budget debate is traditionally delayed until the morning after by the introduction of a private member's Bill debate immediately after the Chancellor's speech. But the Budget debate had to begin at once because none of the four private Bills now progressing through Parliament is ready for discussion.

● The Chancellor's 59-minute speech was the shortest Budget speech since Benjamin Disraeli's in 1867. On April 4 that year, Disraeli managed to race through his financial package in just 45 minutes.

Cover catch

Stockbroker Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank's wheeze of putting the firm's Budget predictions in the form of a spoof Financial Statement and Budget Report, red cover and all, did not go unnoticed at the Treasury. The knee-jerk Civil Service response — to slap Alexanders gently on the wrist for something approaching breach of copyright — was halted when some bright spark pointed out that this could imply the numbers of the predictions as well as the format were a little too close to the real thing. So the only official response Andrew Smith, chief economist at Alexanders, received was a request for extra copies.

● John Heddle, Tory MP for Mid-Staffordshire, was the first man into the House of Commons yesterday, bagging his seat for the Budget speech at 4.30am. Heddle made his dawn raid so that he could leave his "place card" on one of the best vantage points in the chamber, then went off to his office to do a few hours' work.

Bookies cheer

In contrast to the criticism thrown at him for chosing Champion Hurdle day at Cheltenham for his Budget, the Chancellor was met with loud cheers when he walked into a Tory back bench finance committee meeting immediately after the speech. Excited by his abolition of on-course betting tax, Richard Holt, MP for Langbaurgh and a bookmaker by trade, leapt to his feet and cried: "The racing industry salutes you."

● Alliance industry spokesman Malcolm Bruce will be sending a thank-you note to Lawson for knocking 5p off the price of unleaded petrol. During the next election campaign, the Alliance leaders will be touring Britain in a bus fuelled by, you've guessed it, unleaded petrol.

Carol Leonard

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PENSIONS

Option on personal schemes to come in three months early

By Peter Gartland, Family Money Editor

The Chancellor announced two significant changes to the Government's plans for pensions. First, he has brought forward to January 4, 1988, the starting date for the introduction of personal pensions. It had previously been expected that personal pensions would start from April 1988.

This means that employees will have the option of joining or remaining in a company pension scheme or taking out a money purchase personal pension.

A personal pension can also be used as an alternative to the state-earnings-related pension scheme (Serps) which in any event is being scaled down over a period of years.

Secondly, Mr Lawson announced that as from October 1987 members of occupational pension schemes will have the option of making additional voluntary contributions (AVCs) to a scheme of their own choice up to the tax approvable limits.

At present members of occupational pension schemes can only make AVC payments if their employer provides the necessary arrangements. It had been the Government's intention to go some way towards de-regulating the AVC structure as from April 1988.

As a result of the Chancellor's announcement yesterday, members of occupational schemes will be able to make AVC payments irrespective of their employer's arrangements.

The pension changes are in line with the Government's desire to increase labour mobility by making it easier for them to take pension rights with them on changing jobs.

The announcement yesterday is broadly in line with an Inland Revenue consultation document published in November 1986. A personal pension will be an option not only for the 10 million people who are now entitled to a Serps pension, but also to the 11 million people in occupational schemes.

Contributions to a personal pension may come from three sources: the member, the employer (if he/she so wishes) and the Department of Health and Social Security in the form of minimum contributions, representing a rebate of part of the employer's and employee's National Insurance contributions.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday that people taking out personal pensions will be able to get contributions paid by the DHSS backdated to April this year. These minimum contributions will be topped up by a 2 per cent incentive.

Personal pensions will operate broadly in the same way as self-employed retirement annuities, which will in future be subject to the same tax regime as personal pensions.

Existing legislation on retirement annuities will be replaced by the terms of the Finance Act 1987. The maximum annual contribution to a personal pension plan will be 17.5 per cent of income up to age 50. For people over 50, higher limits will apply.

The introduction of personal pensions from January 1988 will be welcomed by banks, building societies and unit trust groups.

It does mean, however, that many of the new personal pension providers will have difficulty in having systems ready to cope with marketing these contracts from the start of next year.

In addition to his comments on personal pensions and AVCs, the Chancellor announced other changes to existing pensions practice. In particular the definition of "final remuneration" will be tightened up, to prevent artificial inflation of the figure on which benefits are based.

Mr Lawson also announced that a limit of £150,000 will be placed on the proportion of benefits which can be taken as a tax-free lump sum.

Many of the changes yesterday seemed to take the National Association of Pension Funds by surprise. Mr Michael Elton, director-general, said last night: "We must study these proposals in detail before making any statement."

Age allowance rise doubled for over-80s

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The very elderly were treated as a special case for the first time yesterday and given double the normal age tax allowance.

The Chancellor announced that the age allowance for those over 65 would increase in line with inflation but that those over 80 would get double this amount.

The single age allowance for the over 65s is to increase by £110 to £2,960, while the married age allowance will go up by £170 to £4,675. The over 80s, however, will benefit from an increase of £220, bringing the single tax allowance up to £3,070 and that for couples to £4,845.

Mr Lawson said 400,000 pensioners would benefit from the changes and 25,000 very elderly people would no longer have to pay income tax.

Last night, though, associations representing the elderly condemned the Budget as a let-down for most pensioners.

Age Concern said that it welcomed the Chancellor's recognition of the increased costs and needs of the very elderly, but the increases would not have been necessary if the age allowance had risen in line with other tax allowances in two previous Budgets.

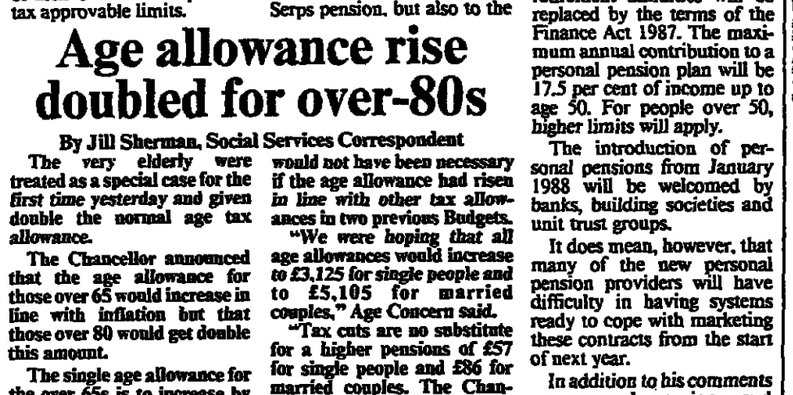
"We were hoping that all age allowances would increase to £3,125 for single people and to £5,105 for married couples," Age Concern said.

"Tax cuts are no substitute for a higher pensions of £57 for single people and £86 for married couples. The Chancellor has done nothing for the poorest pensioners and very little for those on modest incomes."

● Allowances for the blind are to rise for the first time since 1981. Allowances for single blind people will go up by £180 to £540 and for married couples who are both blind, by £360 to £1,080.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind said that while it was pleased that the allowances had been raised, only 30,000 out of 135,000 blind people would benefit and by only 80p a week.

"Most blind people are too poor to pay tax and the RNIB will continue to campaign for a proper disability allowance for all blind people."





Price differential cut: Consumption of lead-free petrol is to be encouraged.

UNLEADED PETROL

4.5p knocked off a gallon

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Chancellor has carried out his promise to encourage the use of unleaded petrol by reducing the tax on it to bring its cost in line with regular four-star pump prices. He also provided the oil companies with an unexpected bonus, by leaving other fuel taxes unchanged.

Mr Lawson has cut the tax take on unleaded fuel, which costs 4.5p a gallon more to make according to the main oil companies, and brought its price to slightly less than four star.

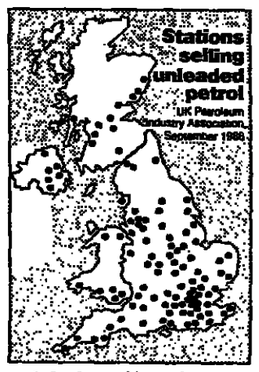
However, as only about 200 filling stations are equipped to handle the fuel, the concessions will have little impact, although they will be welcomed on environmental grounds.

Esso has led the move into unleaded fuel and has more than half of the outlets, but as filling stations are re-equipped more pumps will be provided. The big oil companies have concentrated on serving continental motorists arriving at the Channel ports.

The fuel requires dedicated pumps and new tanks which have to be isolated from the normal blender tanks which provide two, three and four star fuel.

The Chancellor's decision to leave taxes on petrol unchanged means the motorist will be paying less for a gallon than two years ago when the price went above £2 a gallon for the first time.

Forecourt competition and the fall in world oil prices combined to push prices down



and the latest increase means that the average price is £1.75 a gallon, with duty accounting for 88.1p, VAT 22.8p, the retailer taking 7.8p and the oil company 56.3p. The excise duty on unleaded fuel is now 83.7p a gallon.

However, the announcement that the use of unleaded petrol is to be encouraged with a lower rate of duty has not been universally welcomed.

The manufacturers have welcomed the move. From October 1989, all new cars sold in Britain will have to be capable of using unleaded petrol.

However, filling station operators are worried that problems could arise if the new differential rates of duty lead to unleaded petrol being priced on some forecourts at less than four-star.

Mr Bruce Petter, the Petroleum Retailers Association director, has given a warning that the Government and the oil companies will need to launch an improved information campaign telling motorists of the dangers of using lead-free fuel in cars not designed to take it.

The association says it fears its members will be on the receiving end of complaints when cars suffer mechanical problems because of the wrong use of unleaded fuel.

The unchanged duty rates are also likely to continue the expansion in the number of private motorists opting for diesel-engine cars.

● Car tax has been left unchanged at £100 for the third year in succession. In 1985 the fee was increased from £90. The Chancellor resisted the temptation to raise £80 million with a £4 increase in line with inflation.

The Automobile Association said it was a welcome Budget and Mr Anthony Fraser, director of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said: "We are quite encouraged that the cost of car ownership has not been increased in the Budget."

No change was made in vehicle excise for trucks and coaches after increases last year. The Freight Transport Association said: "The Budget's moratorium on fuel duty and vehicle excise licences, which account for one fifth of a truck's operating costs, will be a welcome respite for the transport industry."

INHERITANCE TAX

£19,000 boost outstrips inflation

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The raising of the inheritance tax threshold from £71,000 to £90,000 will benefit a large number of people, for it is estimated that one third of estates, in most cases the family home, are valued up to £90,000.

The result is that beneficiaries from estates worth £71,000-£90,000 will be about £8,000 better off.

The increased threshold is well above the increase in inflation, which would have stretched it to £74,000.

The new rates of tax are nil up to £90,000, 30 per cent from £90,000 to £140,000, 40 per cent from £140,000 to £220,000, 50 per cent from £220,000 to £330,000 and 60 per cent above £330,000.

It is estimated that more than £6 billion is inherited from houses alone, and that a large number of estates are valued at between £71,000 and £90,000.

The Chancellor has also decided to exclude from inheritance tax gifts involving interest in possession trusts.

Examples of these would be where a father wanted to give money to his son but retain control of the capital. He could set up a trust with say a lump sum and decree that the income from the money goes to his son but that someone else, perhaps his wife, would get the capital.

Other areas likely to benefit include transfers of family businesses or of heritage properties, such as historic homes, which are often held in interest in possession trusts.

The Country Landowners' Association said the inheritance tax cut would help the small farm, while the changes to the rules for trusts would help preserve many traditional estates.

Mr Adrian Baird, the association's chief taxation adviser, said: "We have been campaigning for this change ever since inheritance tax was introduced. Let us hope that it will encourage the handing over of businesses to younger management, which has so far been thwarted by a crippling tax burden."

Mr Baird added that potentially helpful changes in capital gains tax had been overlooked, and landowners still could not sell assets to restructure their businesses without heavy capital gains tax charges.

"The heavily borrowed farmer needs to be able to sell land and reduce his debts rather than invest in new assets. For the farmer who bought his land before 1982, the continued taxation of inflationary gains makes his situation even worse", he said.

In general, the taxation changes and likelihood of lower interest rates should help the housing market.

Mr Martin Sturgis, senior partner of the estate agents Sturgis and Son, said that pent-up demand would be released by the prospective mortgage rate cut as income tax benefits were channelled into the residential property market.

"Particular areas of interest will be the London suburbs. Activity will increase in central London where sales have been held up by high asking prices", he said.

Mr Alan Thomson, managing director of Laing Homes, described the Budget as good for first-time buyers, but he urged them to buy now before interest rates went down and helped to push prices higher.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

'Missed opportunity' is condemned

By Robert Matthews

The lack of any direct financial help for science and technology has been widely condemned as short-sighted and likely to put the UK even further behind its foreign rivals.

The Save British Science (SBS) campaign said yesterday that a great opportunity to bring in measures able to promote research in the UK had been lost.

Professor Denis Noble, of Oxford University, a founder member of the campaign, said: "As far as we can see, the Chancellor has not taken any opportunity to introduce changes in tax to help R&D."

The SBS also claimed that the reduction in personal income tax would do nothing to halt the "brain drain".

Professor Noble said that research by the SBS showed that levels of tax were not the reasons that some of Britain's top researchers go abroad.

He said: "They leave because of lack of facilities. A reduction of 2p in tax will have only a very small effect."

Professor Jean-Patrick Connerade, of Imperial College London, a member of the SBS executive committee, said that the campaign had wanted specific measures in the Budget to help UK science and technology.

Professor Connerade considered that the Budget did not take a long enough view of the future. He said: "What we need is not tax cuts but jobs for the young post-doctoral researchers in our universities.

"In the end, the growth of industry is restricted by the availability of trained people."

Tomorrow's innovators could not be expected to enter universities without the prospect of jobs to go to in successful, expanding high-tech companies.

Professor Connerade said that the only way that the parlous state of research in the UK could be improved was by an injection of £100 million into the university system.

Mr Peter Sachs, director of the Electronic Engineering Association (EEA) which has been pressing hard for financial incentives to help innovation in the UK, said that the financial changes announced in yesterday's Budget have at best only an ephemeral effect on R&D.

He said this makes them practically useless in planning ahead.

The introduction of a 150 per cent tax allowance on all private R&D expenditure, an approach used in Australia, could have stimulated the creation of a quarter of a million jobs and boosted the level of industrial R&D by more than a third during the next three years, according to research carried out by the EEA.

The immediate loss of tax revenue to the Government that would result could be recouped in less than four years, according to the EEA.

Jeremy Bray, Labour spokesman on science and technology, said yesterday that the lack of such tax incentives made Britain virtually unique among our competitors.

R & D TAX RELIEF — SUMMARY OF SCHEMES

Tax allowance or grant	UK	USA[1]	Japan[2]	W Germany	France[3]	Australia[4]	Singapore[5]
Revenue expend tax allowance	100%	100%	100% if desired	100%	100	150% of expenditure (1985-91)	100% of expend 200% approved project
Revenue expend tax credit	Nil	20% of increase on previous 3 yrs' average	20% of incrse on value post 1966 max 10% of tax. Tech credit for s/med companies	Nil	50% incrse on prev yr to Fr5m	Nil	Nil
R & D grants	Up to 25% of development Startup/mrkting costs for selected schemes	Nil	Some 50% for energy/envrnmnt work + patent exploitation	7½-20% assets. 40% salary sub s/med companies. New staff to 1 year. External contract resrch	Fr35-50k per job except Paris and Lyons	At discretion of the government	To 50% of capital expenditure
Capital equipmt tax allowance	Dependent on R & D deprec otherwise 25%	Variable	Accelerated initial deprec[6] for some. Ord deprec +30%	40% additional 15% for fixed assets	25-40% declining balance[6] (retain 5 yrs)	150% of expenditure over 3 yrs	As for revenue expenditure[8]
Capital equipmt tax credit	Nil	Nil	As for revenue[7]	Nil	Deprec included in tax credit	Nil	Nil
Corporation tax	35%	48%[9]	Approx 57%	56%	45%	46%[9]	33%

[1] Scheme changed to 20% from 1986. [2] Includes production R&D where associated with manufacture. [3] New increased benefit for 1986. [4] Includes production engineering but excluding preproduction activity and duplication of commercial products. [5] Includes production R & D. [6] On moveable assets. [7] Based on depreciation allowance. [8] Figure may be reduced. [9] About to rise to 49%

Cars gearing up for new formula

These cars can run on unleaded petrol without adjustment or fear of damage:

Audi 80 CL; Audi 200 Turbo, quattro and Avant quattro models; Rover 213; Rover 820; Bedford Midi 9 seater; Bristol Britannia; Carbodies Taxi; Daihatsu Domino; Daihatsu Charmant 1.3; Daihatsu Fourtrak; Fiat Panda 750; Fiat Formula Uno 45; Honda Civic, all models; Honda Integra; Honda Ballade.

Hyundai Pony; Hyundai Stellar; Isuzu Piazza; Isuzu Trooper; Lada Riva, all models; Lada Niva; Land Rover, all models; Mazda 323 1.1, 1.3, 1.5; Mazda 626 1.6; Mazda RX7; Mercedes 190 2.6; Mercedes 260E, 300E; Mercedes 300SE, 420SE, 500SE; Mercedes 420SEC, 500SEC; Mercedes T estate, all models; Nissan Micra (four speed manual and automatic models only); Nissan Cherry 1.3; Nissan Sunny 1.3; Nissan Prairie 1.8; Nissan Bluebird 1.6; Nissan Laurel; Nissan Patrol.

Talbot, all models; Peugeot 205 XE/XL and automatic; Peugeot 305 automatic; Peugeot 309 GE 1.1; Peugeot 505 GR/SR and V6; Porsche 924S; Porsche 944S, 944 Turbo; Porsche 928S4; Renault 5 GTL, TSE, automatic, GT Turbo; Renault 11 TL and GTL; Renault 21 TL.

Saab, all models; Seat, all models; Subaru Justy; Subaru 1.6, 1.8 (except turbo models); Suzuki, all models; Toyota Starlet (current model); Toyota Corolla GL, GT and estate; Toyota MR2; Toyota Supra (current model); Volkswagen Polo, all models; Volkswagen Golf C and CL.

Volkswagen Jetta C and TX; Volkswagen Passat C; Volkswagen Scirocco GT; Volvo, all models.

These cars can be run safely on unleaded fuel only if a dealer has adjusted the engine's ignition timing.

Under no circumstances should unleaded petrol be used before the adjustments are carried out.

Alfa Romeo, all models; Aston Martin Lagonda; Aston Martin V8 saloon, Volante; Audi 80, all models except CL; Audi 90; Audi Coupe, except Turbo model; Audi 100, all models; BMW 316; BMW 318i; BMW 320i; BMW 325i; BMW 518i; BMW 520i; BMW 525e; BMW 528i; BMW 628 CSi; BMW 728i.

Citroen BX 1.6, 1.7, 1.9; Citroen CX, all models; Daihatsu Charmant 1.6; Fiat Panda 1000, 4x4; Fiat Uno 45, 60, 70; Fiat Strada 60, 70; Fiat Regata 70, 85, 100; Fiat X1/9; Ford Fiesta; Ford Escort (except Turbo model); Ford Orion; Ford Sierra; Ford Granada; Honda Accord EXi; Honda Prelude 2000 coupe; Honda Legend; Lancia Y10 Fire, Touring; Lancia Delta 1300, GT 1600; Lancia Prisma, all models.

Range Rover; Lotus Esprit Turbo High Compression; Mercedes 190E, all models; Mercedes 230E, 200T, 230TE; Mercedes 560 SEC, SEL; Mercedes G-Wagon; Morgan Plus Eight; Morgan 4/4; Naylor TF1700; Nissan Sunny 1.5, 1.6; Nissan Prairie 1.5; Nissan 300C, all models; Nissan 300 ZX non turbo models.

Panther, all models; Peugeot 205 GTI, CTI; Peugeot 309 SR 1.6 Injection; Peugeot 505 GTI; Porsche 944; Porsche 911 Carrera; Porsche 911 Turbo; Reliant Scimitar 1.3, 1.4, 1.6; Renault 4GTL; Renault 5 TC, TL; Renault 9 TC, TL, GTL, automatic; Renault 11 TC, automatic, TXE; Renault 25 GTS, V6 automatic; Renault GTA V6; Renault Espace GTS, TSE.

Rolls-Royce, all models; Skoda, all models; Toyota Corolla GT coupe; Toyota Camry; Toyota Celica GT; Toyota Space Cruiser; Toyota Tercel 4wd; Toyota Carina II; Volkswagen Golf GL, GTi; Volkswagen Jetta GL, GT; Volkswagen Passat CL, GL, GLS, GT; Volkswagen Scirocco GTS, GTX.

MORTGAGES

No change in interest relief ceiling

By Amanda Pardoe

One of the great omissions from the Budget was the announcement of a rise in the ceiling for mortgage interest relief from £30,000 to £35,000, and the restriction of the amount of relief to the basic rate of tax.

That would have been particularly beneficial to first-time buyers, especially those in the South-east where property prices have continued to soar since the last increase in the threshold in 1983.

However, it is widely believed interest rates will go down further and this will bring about a fall in the mortgage rate.

A three-quarter percentage point cut, bringing the rate to 11.5 per cent, will mean that a £35,000 repayment mortgage running for 25 years with the Nationwide Building Society will cost £287.72 a month for a borrower paying tax at the lower basic rate of 27 per cent, instead of £282.57 at the 29 per cent basic rate.

This increase is because the cut in the rate of income tax, automatically means a cut in the amount of tax relief.

GAMBLING

On-course betting tax abolished

By John Goodbody
Sports News Correspondent

The Chancellor has abolished the 4 per cent on-course betting tax for horse and greyhound racing from March 29, which will encourage more people to place their wagers at the trackside rather than at betting shops, where an 8 per cent tax remains.

In the past punters at all racecourses have paid the 4 per cent tax on winning bets. For many who go racing the abolition could make the difference between profit and loss on a day's gambling.

It will also help small bookmakers at the tracks, who have been struggling for survival against 10,200 betting shops, led by the big four, Ladbrokes, Coral, William Hill and Mecca.

The Chancellor's decision, which was widely expected in the industry, will partially offset the setting up by the big four of Satellite Information Services, which from May 1 will be able to beam horse and greyhound racing meetings into betting shops and make the shops increasingly attractive to punters.

Lord Fairhaven, the Senior Steward of the Jockey Club, said he was delighted with the news which would give a "much-needed boost to the spectator sport of racing".

He said: "Abolition of on-course duty will go some way towards redressing the advantages given to off-course bookmakers, following the relaxation of restrictions of betting shop facilities, and will enable racecourse managements to offer a valuable incentive to attract the public back through the turnstiles.

"It will also help to strengthen the on-course market, on which both the off-course market and substantial Government revenue depend."

Mr Fred Underhill, Secretary of the National Greyhound Racing Club, who yesterday received an OBE from the Queen at Buckingham Palace, said: "This is a wonderful breakthrough for the sport. It is a result of all the work carried out over the years, bearing in mind that we have been striving to get the tax removed since it was imposed on the sport more than 37 years ago."

He said that he hoped attendances at greyhound meetings, which have suffered a 20 per cent decline over the past five years and now total 3.8 million spectators annually, would increase.

Mr Colin Webster, an on-course bookmaker, said: "I am amazed that this has happened. But it can only be for the good of racing."

Members of the big four bookmaking concerns were less happy and claimed that it would lead to an upsurge in illegal betting, because certain bookmakers may trade on-course to disguise off-course activity.

Mr Terry Probert, a spokesman for Mecca, said: "It will have no direct impact on us. But it will strengthen the race horse market. I would have thought the Government should also have abolished the tax in betting shops."

A spokesman for Coral said: "It is unfortunate the Chancellor has not reviewed off-course tax as there is now the discrepancy between 8 per cent and nothing and this could lead to illegal betting."

Mr Tom Kelly, Secretary of the Betting Office Licensees Association (Bola), said he was also concerned about an increase in illegal betting. "I hope the Customs and Excise will maintain a presence on racecourses to avoid an escalation in the evasion of off-course duty," he said.

On-course betting duty raised £18 million per year for the Exchequer and the Government is clearly hoping that satellite television will help create a big increase in off-course betting to make up for the lost revenue.



On-course betting at Goodwood racecourse, which, with other tracks, is expected to enjoy an upsurge in racegoers as a result of changes to the betting tax structure announced by the Chancellor yesterday.

Fury at amusement machine levy rise

By Cliff Feltham

Bass, the brewing giant which operates 7,500 amusement machines in its chain of public houses, was furious at the 25 per cent increase in the licence duty. This raises the duty on a machine from £300 to £375 a year.

Mr Peter Sherlock, managing director of Bass Leisure, said: "There is no way this increase can be recovered from the customer because the stake money is limited to 10p by law.

"This is a very heavy burden for pubs to bear, particularly as they have an average of two machines each. That is another £3 a week on overheads."

He could not understand the Government's reasoning in abolishing the on-course betting duty and recovering the estimated £20 million a year loss by increasing the gaming machine licence duty.

He added: "This is a completely bogus argument to me."

Mr Alan Willis, general secretary of the British Amusement Catering Trades Association, said the industry would be disappointed at the increase.

"We think the industry is already heavily taxed and it will not be possible to pass on this increase. It will be a major expense for working men's clubs."

But there was a more muted response from Pleasurama, the leisure group which rents 32,000 amusement machines.

Mr Nat Solomon, the chairman, said: "The prosperity of our industry depends on the prosperity of the pubs and the fact that there is no additional tax on beer and spirits means overall business should not be depressed.

"If anything, the overall revenue from our machines, far from being depressed, could be more buoyant.

"Of course, we would rather have seen no increase in the tax at all but I don't think the impact should be very significant for the customer."

Mr Nick Gregory, a leisure analyst with the stockbroker de Zoete and Bevan, felt the increase in duty would probably be absorbed by the company renting the machines to soften the blow for the customer.

He said: "But £3 a week for someone with two machines isn't that big an increase. Some people thought the rise might have been more."

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

A Budget for the City – with reservations

There are seven facts, of varying significance, about Nigel Lawson's fourth Budget: 1) it was one of the most accurately-trailed statements on record; 2) his delivery was unusually tedious, giving rise to some anxiety about his state of health; 3) in his general approach to financial and economic management, the Chancellor remains commendably consistent; 4) although there was a good deal of small print directed at specific groups of taxpayers, the main content of the Budget was simple and straightforward; 5) while the Budget points to an early general election – late May or early June (the income tax reductions will reach Pay-As-You-Earn taxpayers on or shortly after May 17) – the option of a later date, though probably not later than the autumn, is just left open; 6) the Budget could hardly have been better devised to appeal to the City, and 7) such fiscal rectitude is designed to bring its immediate reward in the shape of lower interest rates. Bank base rates should come down today by at least half a percentage point to 10 per cent and perhaps by one point to 9½ per cent.

When, early in his speech, Mr Lawson announced that £3 billion out of his estimated "fiscal adjustment" (the total he had to play with) would be applied in reducing public sector borrowing from £7 billion to £4 billion (limiting his tax cuts to £2.5 billion), gilt-edged futures, prices in the gilt-edged market and sterling all began moving towards the roof. The benchmark stock, Treasury 11¾ per cent 2003-07, went to £123 per cent where it yields to redemption 9 per cent. At the end of last week, the price was £120 per cent and the gross redemption yield 9.3 per cent.

Dealers immediately cottoned on to the fact that the Bank of England had successfully persuaded the Chancellor, assuming he needed persuading, that his main priority in financial management was to bring down interest rates, and to that end a lower public sector borrowing requirement would be of considerable assistance.

The banks are being goaded in cutting their rates, and in view of the Bank of England's line on the PSBR, it would be illogical and crotchety for the Old Lady to put obstacles in their way. Furthermore, with a projected PSBR of only £4 billion, it may be that the Bank has already funded a large slice of it, making government stock begin to look like a scarce commodity. This, of course, bodes well for the gilt-edged market and as long as the Japanese and other leading foreign investors sense that rates remain on a downward path, it should do little harm to sterling. This optimistic view will be reinforced by Mr Lawson's re-dedication to the cause of lower inflation. Although he expects the rise in the Retail Price Index, year on year, to climb to 4½ per cent by the summer, he foresees inflation down again to 4 per cent by the year end. To round off a happy picture, the Chancellor believes that a PSBR of 1 per cent of gross domestic product – the level at which he appears to have arrived in 1986-87 and is forecasting for 1987-88 – is the virtuous end of a long, hard road.

Now for the other side of the picture. The most conspicuous tax change not made is in the main excise duties. If cutting the price of a pint of beer is no longer an acceptable part of electioneering, leaving the price of beer and spirits, cigarettes and petrol, is not a bad substitute. But this unusual abstinence also reflects a concern about the risk of inflation exceeding the Chancellor's published estimates.

The pre-election strategy is as straightforward as the Budget itself. Already, as the February retail sales figures demonstrated, the public is on a spending spree. Not only is cheaper credit just around the corner, but an extra £2.2 billion is about to fall into pockets and purses from the 2p cut in the basic rate of income tax. For taxpayers and everyone in employment, that is not all. The Treasury is forecasting receipts from income tax, after the 2p cut, of £40 billion in 1987-88: this implies an expectation of higher earnings, which in turn, would help to fuel consumer spending.

It may have been no accident that the Chancellor repeatedly referred to the 1960s and 1970s and the years of low productivity and a blight on growth. The politics of this Budget are reminiscent of Harold Macmillan's golden days when the appealing message to the electorate was that they had never had it so good. Certainly the majority cannot deny that it is true, now as then. And Mr Lawson has a new dimension. The undoubted success of the privatization programme is scheduled to continue. Proceeds from the sale of State assets are estimated at £5 billion in 1987-88. This figure is predicated on a buoyant equity market, which depends partly on perceived electoral trends, and in the absence of the now formally buried Sterling M3 measure of monetary growth, the probability that money will spill freely into financial assets.

The dangers in an unbridled spending boom are first higher inflation, second, a deteriorating balance of payments as foreign goods are sucked into the one leading market where consumer demand is already high, and third, a flight from sterling. A forecast current account surplus in 1986 of £3.5 billion turned out to be a deficit of £1.1 billion. The 1987 forecast is a deficit of £2.5 billion. That could turn out to be badly wrong, but not in the short term. The odds must be on a May-June election.

CHARITIES

VAT relief fails to cheer

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Some charities will now be able to get VAT relief on welfare vehicles, adaptations to homes for the disabled and drugs used in research.

The Chancellor announced VAT exemptions for welfare vehicles used by hospices to transport the mentally ill and for the costs of installing or adapting lavatory or bathroom facilities in charity homes for the disabled.

Mr Lawson said that VAT relief would also apply to drugs and chemicals used by charities for medical research and specialized equipment employed by mountain rescue and first aid services.

He reminded MPs that this year's Finance Bill would increase the limit from £100 to £120 a year on donations to charities under the new payroll giving scheme which starts next month.

But charities said last night that the cut in income tax would cancel out all the additional help the Budget gives charities.

Although the VAT exemptions would have added between £500,000 and £750,000 to charities' budgets, the decision to cut income tax by 2 per cent will result in a loss of £2 million, the Charities VAT and Tax Reform Group said.

"We are very disappointed. Although we welcome the VAT relief for medical research charities which will save Imperial Cancer £100,000 each year, overall the cut in basic rate income tax will result in £2 million losses through a drop in covenant income", the spokeswoman said. Under present legislation charities can claim 29 per cent tax relief on covenants. Thiswill now fall to 27 per cent.

Some charities were also disappointed that the Chancellor did not extend VAT relief on welfare vehicles to all charities. Last year Mr Lawson announced relief for vehicles used for the deaf, blind and the mentally handicapped but vehicles for elderly and disabled organizations have still not been exempted.

EXCISE DUTIES

Sigh of relief for smokers

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Chancellor's decision to leave excise duties untouched produced both disappointment and joy last night.

The anti-smoking lobby expressed its sadness at the lack of increase in tobacco excise duty, while the drinks industry was replete with self congratulations.

A rise in tobacco tax at least to account for inflation was expected, particularly following the recent expression of greater ministerial abhorrence of the habit.

The British Medical Association said: "The countless numbers of people who use a rise in tobacco tax to give them an incentive to try to stop smoking will be discouraged; we are disappointed for them".

Mr David Simpson, director of Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) said: "This is the biggest disappointment for health.

"The Chancellor has ignored unprecedented calls from the medical profession and from his health department colleagues to help them to fight the smoking epidemic.

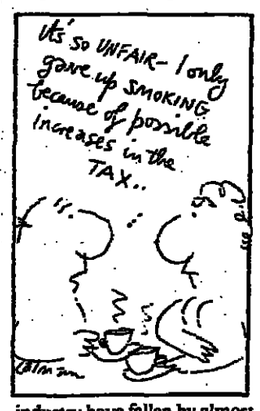
"Britain's lead in giving up smoking could be seriously compromised."

After last year's swingeing 11p per packet rise in duty, more than twice the rate of inflation, tobacco companies had been confident that the Chancellor, with his eye on an election, would not be so harsh on them for a second year.

Last year was difficult for the cigarette trade, with consumers progressively switching to low price and low value brands. This is a segment of the market increasingly dominated by cheap imports from West Germany and which now accounts for 10 per cent of the cigarette market.

Indexation would have netted the Government an additional £100 million in revenue.

According to figures from Imperial Tobacco, jobs in the industry have fallen by almost 20,000 to 21,500 since 1974, mostly because of market decline. But another 170,000 workers depend indirectly on tobacco for their jobs, against 270,000 in 1974.



Seven tobacco factories have closed since 1983 and there have been substantial redundancies in others.

Tax accounts for three-quarters of the recommended retail price of cigarettes. The recommended retail price of a typical king size brand is £1.51, of which almost £1.13 goes on tobacco duty and VAT. Pipe tobaccos carry a tax of nearly three-fifths of the retail price and cigars half the price.

Revenue from tobacco products was £5,384 million, including VAT, in 1985-86 and the estimated take in the current fiscal year is £5,650 million.

The Wine and Spirit Association, celebrating the second successive year of no duty increases, said: "It is whoopee for wines and whoopee for spirits; we have done it again".

It is now expected that the decline in wine sales last year will be reversed.

A 1p increase in the duty on a pint of beer raises about £75 million in the first year, 5p on a bottle of wine £35 million, and 10p on a bottle of spirits £15 million.

Spirits duty in the present year was expected to yield £1,600 million but a shortfall is likely, says the association, because spirits are heavily overtaxed at present levels resulting in a big sales decline.

Further drops in sales would lead to more revenue losses in VAT and in 1986-87, total shortfall in drinks revenue may exceed £100 million.

Scotch whisky, however, has ended 1986 in a buoyant state, boosted by increased exports. The year's total overseas sales of scotch rose by 4.5 per cent to 236 million litres of alcohol, worth £1.07 billion.

SHARE SCHEMES

Employees' option on takeovers

Employees of companies which are taken over are to be allowed to swap their share options for options in the new parent company.

Previously, employees of target companies were forced either to exercise their options prematurely, or to continue to hold them in what became a subsidiary company, depending on the rules of their particular scheme.

However, many acquiring companies want to encourage employees of target companies to commit themselves to the new corporate parent, and felt that this could best be done by offering to substitute the options with their own.

They will not, however, be permitted to make any other change to the terms of such schemes. Replacement options will continue to be governed by the rules of the target company's scheme.

That will include a requirement that the value of the options being acquired will have to be equal to those being given up.

Around 1.5 million employees have benfited under the two types of all-employee option schemes approved by the Government since their inception in 1978 and 1980, involving shares with an initial value of some £1.5 billion.

Existing schemes have increased from fewer than 30 in 1979 to more than 1,200 today, with well over 10,000 companies taking part.



HOW TO TURN NIGEL'S LITTLE GIFT INTO A SMALL FORTUNE.

The Chancellor's budget "gift" puts extra money in your pocket each month. Which will probably be spent before you know it's there. That's why our investment experts invite you to help this money grow – instead of go.

As little as £25 per month in Henderson's Investment Builder Account could become a little fortune. It's an ideal way to begin investing in any of our successful unit trusts.

Over the past ten years, our trusts earned an average return of 699%*. By comparison, the average ordinary building society return pales at only 114%.

Of course, unit trusts can go down as well as up. But Henderson's outstanding 10 year track record has seen funds under management grow to over £7 thousand million.

All of which means there's never been a better time to turn today's little gift into tomorrow's little fortune.

* Source Planned Savings Group Weighted Performance to 1 March 1987.

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TAX LOOPHOLES

Lending abroad to cost more

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

The Chancellor yesterday announced the tightening of the tax treatment of overseas bank loans, making lending to foreign borrowers more expensive for British banks.

They will no longer be able to offset up to 15 per cent of a foreign country's witholding tax on loan interest against its whole corporation tax liability. Instead, the 15 per cent limit of relief from withholding tax will be offset only against the loan to which it applies.

Under the old system, banks were able to reduce the interest they charged to overseas borrowers at the expense of the British taxpayer. The Chancellor regards the move as ending an unnecessary subsidy to overseas borrowers.

The change brings Britain's rules into line with those of virtually all other Western countries. However, the effect will be to increase the cost of lending overseas.

According to Inland Revenue calcualtions, the change will mean a neutral cost in 1987-88, but will bring in an extra £20 million of revenue in the following year and £60 million in 1990-91. The exact yield will be determined by the future pattern of overseas lending and the banks' cost of borrowing.

The new rule comes into effect on April 1 for new loans and April 1 next year for existing loans.

At the same time, the Chancellor announced what are likely to prove tougher tax rules for Lloyd's of London, the international insurance market.

Lloyd's accounts three years in arrears and has to make provision at the end of every account period for insurance claims not yet made: this is called reinsurance to close. The market is now being required to calculate its provisions on the same basis as other insurance companies.

The proposal is vague and will require much discussion before coming into effect for the 1985 year. Experts said that it stemmed from Inland Revenue suspicion that Lloyd's was gaining unnecessary tax relief on the way it calcualted provisions on reinsurance to close.

NORTH SEA

Welcome boost for oil producers

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

All sectors of the oil industry have been pressing the Government for more than a year to change the tax regime in the North Sea with warnings of further substantial job losses.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Energy Minister, hopes the new concessions will lead to an increase in drilling activity and a move towards development for already discovered fields with subsequent orders for hardware flowing to the yards in the north-east of Scotland.

By allowing up to 10 per cent of the cost of a new field's development to be setagainst the Petroleum Revenue Tax (PRT) charged on an existing field, companies will be able to bring forward several planned developments in the North Sea.

The main beneficiaries will be small companies formed during the first burst of enthusiasm for oil developments in the North Sea.

They have been severely pressed by the fall in the world oil price while bigger companies have been able to reduce losses by selling oil-based products.

The move to allow spending on research to be offset against PRT will also encourage the long-term research now being undertaken into prolonging the life of existing fields.

Many of the smaller companies will reap tax benefits through their holdings in existing producing fields, but the tax relief will allow them to plan new exploration.

The Department of Energy has stopped short of joining industry associations in calling for tax changes. Instead, it has been pressing the industry to combat its problems by trying more strenuously for export orders and to foster investment by cutting costs.

Without new tax concessions, the Highland and Islands Development Board has forecast, job losses will rise far in excess of the 20,000 to 22,000 which have already disappeared in the industry. The UK Module Constructors Association — its members build the production and accommodation units which are stacked on top of the oil production platforms — estimates that the industry is operating at only 36 per cent of capacity and that the figure could drop to 19 per cent next year.

The British Rig Owners Association also estimates that under-utilized rigs could each lose as much as £2 million a year and that many are likley to be mothballed this year and crews laid off.

The Scottish Development Agency has been among the leaders in the campaign for tax changes and has suggested that the whole of the North Sea should be declared an enterprize zone to allow substantial concessions on capital investment.



Drilling for oil in the North Sea, where tax concessions should encourage more exploration

VAT

Cash accounting to aid small firms

By Anne Warden

The threshold at which companies are obliged to register for valued-added tax has been raised from £20,500 to £21,300, in line with the rate of inflation — the maximum allowed by EEC rules.

The Chancellor has also introduced cash accounting to ease VAT payment for smaller firms.

Those with an annual turnover of £250,000 or under will be able to choose, from October 1, to make their returns based on cash accounts, rather than on invoices only — a procedure which has meant extra paperwork and heightened problems caused by late payment of debts.

The £250,000 limit takes in more than half of all companies registered for VAT, and is much higher than expected: the level suggested in a consultative document last autumn was £100,000 turnover.

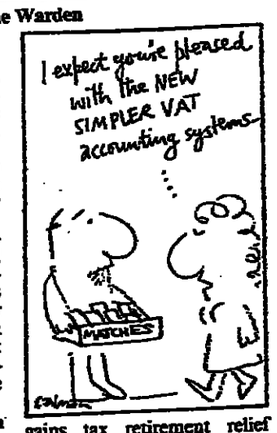
Companies will also be able to choose to make their VAT returns on an annual basis.

Mr Lawson has decided against compulsory deregistration for companies whose turnover is below the threshold.

Family firms will benefit from the raising of the capital gains tax retirement relief from £100,000 to £125,000, a measure which will allow more unincorporated businesses to be passed on intact.

The raising of inheritance tax business relief for minority holdings of more than 25 per cent in unquoted companies from 30 per cent to 50 per cent will also make it easier for business interests to be handed on.

The Chancellor has also cut the small firms' rate of corporation tax from 29 per cent to 27 per cent.



BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEMES

Incentives aimed at even spread of investment

By Lawrence Lever

The Chancellor announced a change to the Government's Business Expansion Scheme designed to stop people waiting until the last minute before making their investment.

However, the amendment was immediately attacked by the scheme's specialists as not going far enough.

The biggest surpise is that no moves have been taken to outlaw the more blatant abuses.

The BES was introduced in 1983 to stimulate investment in unquoted companies, and was extended indefinitely by the Chancellor in last year's budget.

BES investors get tax relief, at their maximum rate of income tax, on the money they invest, subject to a maximum investment of £40,000. Broadly speaking a £10,000 investment would cost a 60 per cent taxpayer only £4,000.

The tendency for investors has been to wait until close to the end of the tax year, when they have a clearer picture of their tax liabilities, before putting their money in BES companies.

That has led to financial year-end bunching as dozens of BES companies rival one another to raise money in the last three months of the tax year.

Yesterday's amendment is designed to achieve a more even spread of investment throughout the year.

From April 5 investors will be able to claim up to one half of their BES investments against their income of the previous year, subject to two limits.

First, to qualify for the carry back the investment must have been in the first half of the tax year — between April 6 and October 6.

More important, an investor can only carry back a maximum £5,000 of BES investment to offset against the previous year's tax bill.

"It won't stop the bunching around April 5 because the carry back is too small", Mr Charles Fry, of BES specialists Johnson Fry, said yesterday.

A spokesman for Lazard Development Capital said that the change would only be a small benefit to BES funds — pools of money which are forced to invest all thier money before the end of the tax year. "It might just take the heat off fund managers a little, but it really is just a small concession".

BES

Total investment by region for 1984-85

Region	No of schemes	Total £m
England		
South East	280	65.1
East Anglia	22	4.7
South West	50	7.5
West Midlands	42	5.9
East Midlands	32	3.6
Yorks/Humber	31	3.5
North & N West	64	5.7
Wales	13	2.9
Scotland	48	3.5
Northern Ireland	11	1.2
Unknown	115	36.3
Total	708	140.0

Source: Inland Revenue

EXCHANGE CONTROL

Act marked post-war fight to stay in credit

By Michael McCarthy

Exchange control, long abandoned by the Government, became a dead letter officially when Mr Lawson announced the formal repeal of the Exchange Control Act, 1947.

The Act was very much the symbol of Britain's constant post-war struggle to keep the balance of payments in credit but its provisions for restricting capital outflows have lain dormant for virtually all the Thatcher years.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, as Chancellor, abolished them in November 1979 as oil revenues began to come on stream, but EEC regulations made it necessary to keep the Act on the statute book.

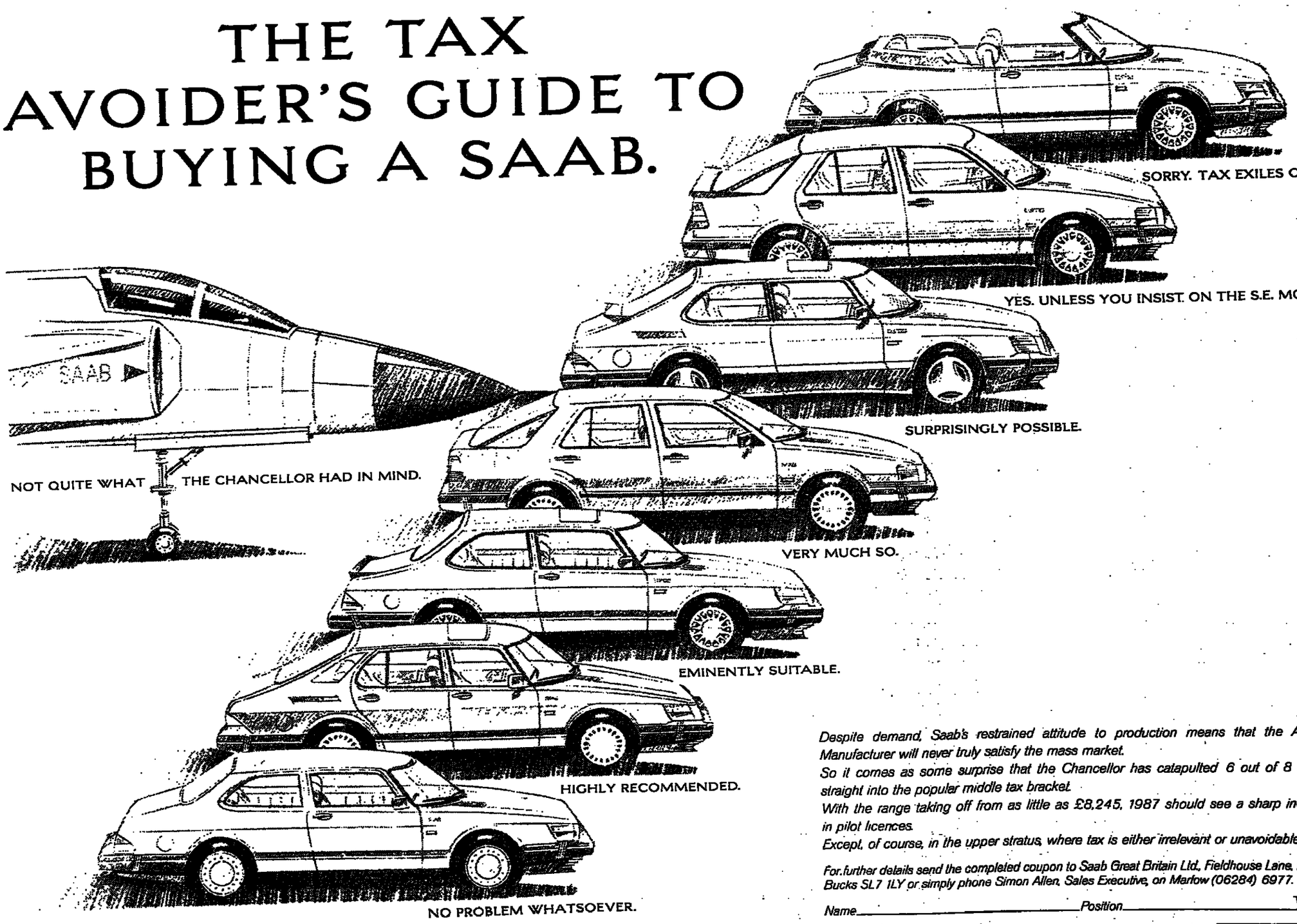
More liberal Community financial attitudes now make it possible for the Act to be done away with altogether.

Mr Lawson told the House that during the past 7½ years abolition had proved "wholly beneficial" to the British economy, and other European countries were now moving in the same direction.

The time had arrived to repeal the Act and the necessary legislation would be contained in this year's Finance Bill.

Noting that Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Opposition, had stated last year that the Labour Party had no intention of reintroducing statutory exchange controls, he said: "I am confident that the proposal I have just made will be welcomed on all sides of the House".

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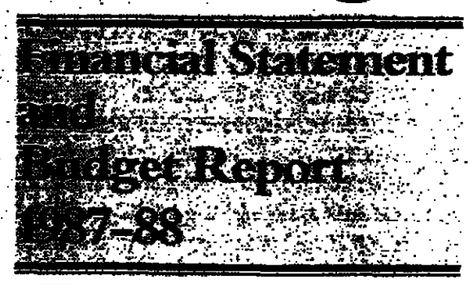
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PROSPECTS

Exports and manufacturing to spearhead 3% growth

In its Financial Statement and Budget Report (the Red Book) the Treasury outlines an even stronger economic background to this year's Budget than it had predicted a year ago. Output is now expected to grow at 3 per cent in 1987-88, more than previously expected and a slightly higher rate of growth than the world economy as a whole. Manufacturing output should rise more than the economy overall, but prices are now also expected to rise slightly faster. The Medium Term Financial Strategy has been adjusted to aim for lower government borrowing and includes a new target to hold borrowing at 1 per cent of output.



The economy has been growing at about 3 per cent since last spring as exports have recovered strongly. For 1986 as a whole, recorded GDP growth was about 2½ per cent. A substantial rise in investment and non-oil exports is forecast for 1987, and GDP is expected to grow by 3 per cent, with manufacturing output rising slightly faster.

Employment has continued to grow, particularly since the middle of last year. There has been a reversal of the previous rising trend in unemployment, and there are good prospects for a continuing decline this year.

Inflation fell last year to 3½ per cent, its lowest level for nearly 20 years. During 1987 inflation may rise temporarily to a little more than 4½ per cent, as last year's movements in petrol prices and mortgage interest rates affect the year-on-year comparisons. But it is expected to fall back to about 4 per cent by the fourth quarter.

Output in the main industrial countries has been rising by 2½-3 per cent a year since 1984, and is likely to continue at that rate this year. Imports by developing countries (other than oil exporters) should rise this year. Markets for British exports of manufactures may grow a little faster in 1987 than in 1986.

After the fall in oil prices a year ago, the current account of the balance of payments recorded a deficit of around £1 billion in 1986. Both export and import volumes rose sharply in the second half of last year. A further relatively modest current account deficit of £2½ billion (½ per cent of GDP) is forecast for 1987.

The forecast for Britain assumes that fiscal and monetary policies are set within the framework of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. It makes the conventional assumption of an oil price of $15 a barrel, as in last year's forecast, and assumes that the exchange rate will remain close to its current level.

Financial conditions

The dollar fell further during 1986, particularly against the mark and the yen. These changes will, in time, help to reduce the size of the American current account deficit and the Japanese and German surpluses. Finance ministers of six of the leading industrialized nations agreed last month to seek a period of stability in exchange rates. Sterling fell in the summer of 1986, in the wake of the fall in the oil price. It remained steady between October and mid February, but has since strengthened.

Short-term interest rates in Britain, which rose to nearly 13 per cent in January 1986, fell last spring to about 10 per cent. But with sterling weakening in the summer and autumn and with M0 also indicating an easing of monetary conditions, interest rates were raised to 11 per cent in October; they remained about that level until early March, but have since fallen. Rates in several overseas countries have also been reduced in recent months. Longer-term rates in Britain followed the same broad profile as short-term rates during 1986, falling sharply in the spring and rising in the autumn. In recent weeks they have fallen again, to below 10 per cent.

M0 growth was below the centre of its 2-6 per cent target range in the early months of 1986-87. Its growth quickened from August onwards, reflecting both the falls in interest rates in the spring and the buoyant growth of personal incomes, and moved into the upper half of its target range. More recently it has fallen back again to the middle of its target range.

The growth of £M3 rose to 18 per cent in the early months of 1986-87 and has since remained at about that level. This is some 3 points above the top of its target range, which in turn was set well above the growth of money GDP. Holdings of bank deposits by companies and financial institutions have grown particularly rapidly. The wider aggregates that include building societies's liabilities have grown more slowly, although also at a rate well in excess of the growth of money GDP; the year-on-year growth of PSL2 has been about 13-14 per cent in recent months. Credit has continued to grow strongly, reflecting at least partly the pace of financial innovation and liberalization.

The growth of broad money must be seen in the context of the strong growth of private sector wealth and strongly positive real interest rates that have made financial assets attractive to hold. Increased competition in financial markets has narrowed the margins between borrowing and lending rates and this has led persons and companies to build up both their liquidity and their borrowing. The considerable increase in liquidity since 1980 appears to have been willingly held, and has been accompanied by lower inflation.

World economy

The world economy has been strongly influenced by the fall in oil and other commodity prices, and by the substantial depreciation of the dollar. Lower import prices have helped to reduce inflation in the industrialized countries and stimulated faster growth in real domestic demand. But developing countries — and oil producers in particular — have suffered a sharp deterioration in their terms of trade.

Real GNP in the seven largest OECD countries grew by about 2½ per cent in 1986. Domestic demand grew rather faster, at 3½-4 per cent, with large rises in household incomes and consumers' expenditure. Inflation fell further; and average consumer prices in the seven leading countries increased by only 2 per cent in 1986.

Despite the buoyance of domestic demand in these countries, industrial production has grown only slowly. This has been largely a result of weak export demand, particularly from developing countries, and relatively sluggish growth in investment.

The changes in exchange rates during the last two years are already beginning to have significant effects on trade volumes; but these have not yet been enough to overcome the terms of trade effects (the J-curve). As a result, the trade imbalances between the leading countries remain large. The surpluses in Japan and West Germany have continued to grow, though more slowly; and there has been little sign yet of any substantial reduction in the US current account deficit.

Oil prices fell below $10 per barrel last summer, but rose in the second half of the year after the Opec meeting in December. They have recently traded at $15-$18 a barrel.

Food and industrial materials prices fell sharply through most of last year, although they recovered slightly in the autumn.

World import volumes are thought to have grown by more than 5 per cent during 1986. This is somewhat faster than in 1985, largely because of a rise in oil trade as the main oil companies rebuilt their stocks. Developed countries' exports of manufacturers rose by only 3 per cent as buoyant domestic demand in industrialized countries was partially offset by cuts in developing countries' imports.

British trade and the balance of payments

Britain's competitiveness improved markedly during 1986. Productivity rose fast and the growth of unit labour costs was only a little above that of our main competitors. As a result, the lower exchange rate was almost entirely reflected in improved competitiveness. Most of the gain in competitiveness seems likely to be maintained during the year ahead.

Prices of most imports rose during 1986, as the effects of the depreciation of sterling more than offset generally weak world prices. Export prices also rose, as exporters took advantage of sterling's decline to improve profit margins. Excluding oil, the terms of trade for goods worsened slightly between 1985 and 1986. Little further change seems likely in 1987.

Exports of manufactures have been growing strongly in recent months. Growth had flattened in the final months of 1985 and exports fell briefly in early 1986, in common with those of other main manufacturing countries. But since then they have recovered strongly, and in the three months to January were 6 per cent above their level a year earlier. With rising world trade and the continued benefits of improved competitiveness, manufactured exports should show further strong growth in 1987. Exports of non-manufactures rose rapidly last year, mainly as a result of exceptionally high grain exports (demand for British grain exports was strong, partly reflecting drought in Southern Europe); grain exports are unlikely to continue at these levels in 1987. Total exports should grow by about 6 per cent, compared with 2½ per cent in 1986.

British manufactured export volumes appear to have maintained their share of developed countries' exports in 1986. This reinforces the previous evidence that the declining trend in share of developed countries's exports over the decades up to 1981 has ended.

Non-oil imports were flat in the early part of 1986, but then rose sharply in the second half of the year. More recently, the rate of growth has moderated. Imports are likely to continue to rise in 1987 as domestic activity expands, though improved competitiveness should slow the rate of growth. Non-manufactured imports rose rapidly in 1986, partly reflecting increased imports of foodstuffs; this effect is unlikely to continue in 1987. In total, imports of goods other than oil are forecast to rise by 5 per cent between the second halves of 1986 and 1987.

Britain's surplus on oil trade halved from £8 billion in 1985 to £4 billion in 1986, reflecting the sharp fall in world oil prices and some decline in the volume of net oil exports. North Sea production in 1987 is likely to be somewhat lower than in 1986 and the oil trade surplus slightly smaller.

The surplus on invisibles rose in 1986. Net receipts of interest, profits and dividends (IPD) rose particularly rapidly as a result of the lower payments abroad by North Sea companies and an increase in the surplus on other earnings. The surplus on services fell in 1986, largely due to lower net earnings from tourism. The deficit on transfers was abnormally low last year reflecting the size and timing of government transactions with the European Community.

The surplus on invisibles is forecast to show a further rise in 1987 with the pound's depreciation during last year helping to increase the sterling value of the earnings on Britain's large stock of foreign assets. The surpluses on services, should also benefit from the improvement in British competitiveness. These higher earnings should more than offset an increase in the transfers deficit to a more normal level.

The current account recorded a £1 billion deficit in 1986 following a surplus of £3 billion n 1985. Lower net oil earnings and an increased deficit on trade in manufactures more than offset an improvement in invisibles. The forecast for 1987 is for a current account deficit of £2½ billion.

Britain's stock of net overseas assets is thought to have risen by the end of 1986 to about £110 billion (equivalent to 28 per cent of GDP: its highest recorded level since the war) compared with £80 billion at the end of 1985. The increase in the sterling value of assets reflects both the strength of world stock markets and the depreciation of sterling last year.

Inflation

Both retail and producer output price inflation remain close to the lowest levels experienced since the 1960s. The RPI rose by 3½ per cent in 1986, compared to a rise of 6 per cent in 1985. The annual inflation rate reached a low point of 2.4 per cent in July and August: most of its subsequent rise has reflected changes in mortgage interest rates.

The rate of increase of producer output prices has also fallen significantly since the start of 1986, although it has started to edge up again recently, reflecting in part the fall in sterling that took place during the summer and early autumn.

Pay increases in the private sector have fallen slightly in recent months. Settlements in manufacturing industry recorded by the CBI have shown a fall of about 1½ per cent since 1985, although settlements in the private sector as a whole, including those outside manufacturing, may have fallen by less than this. This decline in pay settlements has not yet been reflected in lower recorded growth in average earnings. The current annual rate of growth of earnings reflects settlements made over the whole of the last year (the majority of them still dating from the period when settlements were running at a higher rate than they now are), and is also affected by overtime working, which has risen slightly.

SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

	% changes 1986-1987	Avrge errors from past
A. Output and expenditure at constant 1980 prices		
Domestic demand of which:	3½	¾
Consumers' expenditure	4	1
General government consumption	1	1
Fixed investment	4	2¼
Change in stockbldg as % level of GDP	½	¾
Exports of goods and services	4	2½
Imports of goods and services	6	2½
Gross domestic product: total	3	¾
Manufacturing	4	2
B. Inflation: Retail Prices Index	**% changes**	
1986Q4 to 1987Q4	4	1½
1987Q2 to 1988Q2	4	2¼
Deflator for GDP at market prices	**% change on year ago**	
Financial year 1986-87	3	¾
Financial year 1987-88	4½	1¾
C. Money GDP at market prices		
Financial year 1986-87	6	1¼
Financial year 1987-88	7½	1¾
D. Balance of payments - current a/c	**£ billion**	
1987	-2¼	3
1988 first half (at an annual rate)	-2	3½
E. PSBR	**£ billion[2]**	
Financial year 1986-87	4(1%)	1(¼%)
Financial year 1987-88	4(1%)	5(1¼%)

[1] The errors relate to the average differences (on either side of the central figure) between forecast and outturn. The method of calculating these errors has been explained in earlier publications and government forecasts (see Economic Progress Report June 1987). The calculations of average errors are based on forecasts made between 1975 and 1985. The errors are after adjustment for the effects of major changes in fiscal policy where excluded from the forecasts.

[2] Per cent of GDP at market prices shown in brackets.

FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Government's target is still price stability

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) continues to provide the framework for the Government's economic policy, as it has done since 1980. It is intended to bring inflation down further over a period of years and, ultimately, to achieve price stability.

It is complemented by policies designed further to improve other aspects of economic performance.

Economic policy is set in a nominal framework. Monetary and fiscal policies are designed to reduce the growth of money GDP, so bringing down inflation. They are complemented by policies to encourage enterprise, efficiency and flexibility. These policies improve the division of money GDP growth between output growth and inflation, and help the creation of jobs.

During the past seven years, money GDP growth has come down from more than 20 per cent to about 6 per cent. In real terms the economy has grown at approaching 3 per cent a year on average since 1981, with little variation in the growth rate from year to year. This has been achieved while inflation has come down sharply — from a peak of more than 20 per cent in 1980 to 4 per cent now.

Productivity is rising rapidly, at a rate which compares very favourably with our main competitors. The economy has weathered the fall in oil prices last year without disruption, and is about to embark on a seventh year of steady growth, combined with low inflation.

Policy is directed at maintaining monetary conditions that will bring about a gradual reduction in the growth of money GDP over the medium term. In the short term there will inevitably be fluctuations, but the Government will aim to avoid departures in the medium term from the path set out.

The growth of money GDP in 1986-87 is expected to be somewhat below the 6¾ per cent forecast at the time of the last Budget. The forecast for 1987-88 is correspondingly higher than the 6½ per cent indicated last year. During the two years to 1987-88, the growth rate is little changed. In the later years, the growth of money GDP declines at the same rate as in last year's MTFS.

The Government sets monetary and fiscal policies to achieve monetary conditions which will deliver its objectives for money GDP. A declining path for money GDP growth, requires firm monetary policies supported by low public sector borrowing.

Fiscal policy is reviewed each year at Budget time. Short-term interest rates, which can be varied more frequently, are the essential instrument of monetary policy. They will continue to be maintained at levels necessary to keep monetary conditions on track.

The authorities seek during each financial year to fund the PSBR fully, and no more, by sales of debt outside the monetary sector. This will continue to be the basis for funding policy.

Monetary policy

Monetary conditions are assessed in the light of movements in narrow and broad money, and the behaviour of other financial indicators, in particular the exchange rate.

There is no mechanical formula for taking these factors into account: a balance must be struck between the exchange rate and domestic monetary growth consistent with the Government's aims for money GDP and inflation.

During the past two years, the dollar has depreciated substantially against most other major currencies. At a meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors of six large industrial nations in Paris on February 22, it was concluded that a period of stability would be desirable.

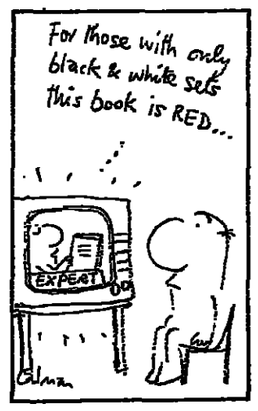
Accordingly, Britain and other countries represented there agreed to co-operate closely to that end. The MTFS projections assume that there is no big change in either the sterling exchange rate index or the sterling/dollar exchange rate from year to year.

Last year's MTFS set out the properties desired of a target aggregate for narrow money.

In particular it should have a stable relationship with money GDP. The velocity of M0 has grown relatively steadily over a long period of time. M0 has proved a reliable indicator of monetary conditions.

In principle there is a case for moving to a wider measure of non-interest bearing money, such as the non-interest bearing component of M1. But the velocity of this aggregate exhibits considerable fluctuations which are at present exacerbated by the rapid growth of interest bearing sight deposits, and it is ultra-sensitive to interest rate changes. In these circumstances, M0 remains the best choice of narrow aggregate for target purposes.

The target range for M0 growth in 1987-88 is 2-6 per cent, unchanged from the



range indicated in last year's MTFS. Ranges for the later years are illustrative but show a decline consistent with the declining path for money GDP growth.

If the underlying growth of M0 threatens to move significantly outside its target range in 1987-88, there is a presumption that the Government will take action on interest rates unless other indicators clearly suggest that monetary conditions remain satisfactory.

Broad money has been growing considerably faster than money GDP in recent years. In part this has reflected high real interest rates, which have added to the attractiveness of financial assets in general; and the end of overfunding in 1985 has also contributed. But perhaps most imporant, the increasing competition in financial markets in recent years has led to rapid growth of private sector liquidity and borrowing.

Private sector borrowing has been rising and is now more than 10 per cent of GDP.

The 1986 Building Societies Act marks a further step in the evolving status of building societies. As their behaviour becomes closer to that of banks, wider aggregates which include building society liabilities are likely to continue to be slightly less erratic than £M3.

Both the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England have drawn attention to the increasing difficulties in interpreting changes in broad money. With rapid and pervasive changes in financial practices, there is no simple relationship between broad money growth and money GDP.

For this reason, the Government has decided that there should be no formal target for broad money in 1987-88. But the rate of growth of broad money cannot be ignored, and the Government will continue to take it into account in assessing monetary conditions.

Fiscal policy

The PSBR in 1986-87 is expected to be about 1 per cent of GDP. This is appreciably less than was set at last year's Budget, in spite of lower oil revenues.

After remaining at about 3¼ per cent of GDP between 1981-82 and 1984-85, the PSBR was reduced sharply in 1985-86 and has come down further in 1986-87. Even if privatization proceeds are added back, it has been lower as a share of GDP in the past two years than at any time since 1971-72.

As usual, the fiscal projections for the next four years take account of the composition of receipts and expenditure. The path of the PSBR is below that shown in last year's MTFS. The buoyancy of revenues has enabled the Government to achieve its long-term objective for the PSBR sooner than would otherwise have been the case.

The PSBR for 1987-88 is set at £4 billion, or 1 per cent of GDP, the same as the expected outturn in 1986-87. North Sea revenues in 1987-88 are forecast at about £4 billion, slightly lower than in 1986-87. The proceeds from the Government's privatization programme are expected to be £5 billion, as set out in the autumn statement.

For the period to 1989-90, the public expenditure projections follow the plans set out in the public expenditure White Paper. It is provisionally assumed that the planning total will grow by 1 per cent in real terms in 1990-91. Decisions on the planning total for that year will be taken in the 1987 survey.

Oil prices are assumed to average $15 a barrel in 1987-88, and thereafter to remain broadly unchanged in real terms.

Continued restraint in public spending is a vital element of the Government's economic strategy. General government expenditure has fallen steadily as a proportion of GDP from its peak of more than 46 per cent in 1982-83. The plans in the White Paper imply a continuing fall in this ratio.

This will enable a low level of borrowing to be combined with reductions in the burden of taxation, so improving motivation, efficiency and employment.

Over the period as a whole, non-North Sea revenues are assumed to grow broadly in line with non-North Sea money GDP. Government revenues from the North Sea, however, are expected to remain more or less unchanged in cash terms, having fallen sharply in 1986-87.

Conclusion

Events both at home and abroad may modify some of the assumptions on which the projections have been based. But the Government is committed to maintaining progress towards lower inflation, lower public expenditure as a share of GDP and lower taxes in the medium term.

The MTFS provides the framework within which the financial policies to achieve this are set.

CORPORATION TAX

Simpler rules could upset cash flow

By Carol Ferguson

Little was expected in the way of changes to the corporate tax structure, after the reforms already introduced which have brought the rate down progressively to its current level of 35 per cent.

It therefore came as no surprise to hear that the Chancellor has chosen to leave the rate of corporation tax unchanged at 35 per cent for this year. The small company rate is reduced from 29 per cent to 27 per cent.

Other measures introduced are by way of simplification of the rules and removal of anomalies.

He has reduced the period of grace allowed to companies within which they must pay their corporation tax bill to nine months for all companies. Until now, companies incorporated before 1965 had up to 21 months in which to pay.

In addition, he has introduced two other changes to the rules. Together these changes will raise £60 million in 1988-89.

The first change proposes that capital gains accruing to any company will be taxed at its corporate tax rate, rather than the 30 per cent capital gains tax rate as at present.



This measure will help small companies, whose chargeable gains will now be taxed at 27 per cent, rather than the 30 per cent capital gains tax rate. However, larger companies will pay more tax on capital gains, up from 30 per cent to 35 per cent.

The second change will allow advance corporation tax (ACT) to be offset against capital gains tax, a modification which could be very valuable for companies with unrelieved ACT.

As the law stands, ACT cannot be offset against capital gains tax. This means that when companies distribute capital gains to their shareholders as dividends, they are taxed twice, once at the capital gains tax rate, and once at the ACT rate.

The standardization of the anomalous treatment of companies incorporated before 1965 is a further simplification of the rules. But Mr David Stewart, tax partner at the accountancy firm, Delloittes Haskins & Sells, said last night it could cause cash flow problems to some companies.

Habitat is one of the best known examples of a company which has exploited this loophole, although it is by no means the only one.

It acquired a small chemist shop in Crewkerne, Somerset, in 1984, a business which was in existence before 1965.

This manoeuvre allowed Habitat to take advantage of the chemist's later tax payment date to defer payment of its own tax for about six months. This device resulted in an interest saving of about £200,000 for the delay.

Mothercare, like Habitat also a member of the Storehouse Group, similarly used the same technique.

Companies incorporated after 1965 must pay within nine months of the year end, and the Chancellor proposes that all companies, including building societies, will from now on be obliged to pay their corporation tax bills within this period.

The tax payment interval will be reduced in phases. However, Mr Stewart said that a company which is at present paying its tax 21 months after the year end would find itself with a corporation tax bill every eight months for three periods until it had reduced to a nine months interval.

ECONOMIC FORECAST

Trade deficit to worsen

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The economy is forecast to grow by 3 per cent this year, without any resurgence in inflation. But the Treasury has increased its forecast for the current account deficit.

The 3 per cent "balanced growth" forecast, incorporates a 3.5 per cent growth rate for the non-oil economy, and 4 per cent for manufacturing.

In the first half of 1988, growth is predicted to slow slightly, to 2.5 per cent. But inflation is expected to remain at about 4 per cent for the whole period.

The Chancellor described the current upturn, which began in 1981, as "the longest period of steady growth, at a rate approaching 3 per cent a year, that the British economy has known since the war".

He was keen to emphasize that exports and investment, as well as consumer spending are growing strongly. Fixed investment is forecast to rise by 4 per cent this year, a similar increase as for consumer spending, while exports are predicted to rise by 6 per cent.

The decision not to raise the duties on alcohol, tobacco and petrol will help to keep down the recorded inflation rate in the coming months. Relative to the effects of indexing duties, the retail price index will be 0.3 per cent lower than it would otherwise have been.

The new inflation forecast is fractionally up on the 3.75 per cent prediction the Chancellor made in the Autumn Statement. Mr Lawson said the rate could rise above 4.5 per cent by the summer, in line with most outside forecasters.

The Treasury has assumed an oil price of $15 a barrel in preparing the Budget forecast. With this and the lower profile of earnings on invisibles published this month, the forecast for the current account deficit has been widened to £2.5 billion, from £1.5 billion in the Autumn Statement.

Imports are expected to grow at a stronger rate than exports this year — 6 per cent growth in non-oil exports to be exceeded by 8 per cent growth in imports. This is partly because of the strength of consumer spending, expected to be up by 4 per cent this year.

The main Budget surprise was the setting of the 1987-88 public sector borrowing requirement target at £4 billion, similar to this year's expected outturn. But with the cumulative PSBR in the first 11 months of the current financial year £0.1 billion, City analysts believe borrowing could come in below the Chancellor's £4 billion estimate for 1986-87.

The PSBR was emphasized as the central element in economic policy, with the official abandonment of targets for the broad money aggregate, sterling M3. Sterling M3 was the cornerstone of the medium-term financial strategy in 1980.

The only targeted monetary aggregate is now narrow money, M0, planned to grow in the 2 to 6 per cent range this year.

The initial reaction of City economists was to praise the realism of the Treasury's forecasts.

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Setting for statement 'most favourable in years'

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, said in his Budget statement:

The setting for this year's Budget is more favourable than it has been for very many years. We are now entering our seventh successive year of steady growth, and the fifth in which this has been combined with low inflation. The public finances are sound and strong, and unemployment is falling.

These are the fruits of the Government's determination, in bad times as well as good, to hold firmly to our policies of sound money and free markets. Once again, I reaffirm those policies.

I shall begin, as usual, by reviewing the economic background to the Budget. I shall then turn to monetary policy and to the fiscal outlook this year and next. Finally, I shall propose some changes in taxation designed to improve still further the prospects that lie before us.

I start with the economic background: 1986 was dominated by the sudden collapse of the oil price. Our own economy was affected not only directly, as a major oil producer and exporter, but also by the pause in world growth as the world economy adjusted to what has been described as the third oil shock. Despite this dislocation, however, the economy has developed in most respects as I foreshadowed a year ago.

In 1986 as a whole, output grew by a further 2.5 per cent or so, which compares well with the experience of other industrialized countries. It is worth recalling that during the 1960s, and again in the 1970s, Britain's growth rate was the lowest of all the major European economies. By contrast, during the 1980s, our growth rate has been the highest of all the major European economies.

And this greatly improved growth performance has been accompanied by falling inflation, which at 3.5 per cent in 1986 reached the lowest figure for almost 20 years. Over the lifetime of this Parliament, inflation has averaged less than 5 per cent.

EXPORTS

Pause in world growth

During the first half of last year exports, and hence output, were affected by the pause in world growth to which I have already referred. But since the middle of the year exports have grown strongly. Indeed, over the last three months, the volume of exports of manufacturers was 6 per cent higher than a year earlier — a better performance than that of any other major economy. This pattern was reflected in the rapid growth of manufacturing output in the second half of last year.

This resurgence of economic growth, coupled with the special measures we have taken, has brought about a welcome fall in the number of people out of work. Since July unemployment has fallen by more than 100,000: the largest six-monthly fall since 1973. Though the numbers out of work are still far too high, both youth unemployment and long-term unemployment are now lower than they were a year ago.

I announced a number of specific employment measures in my last Budget, and since then, the Secretary of State for Employment (Lord Young) has further extended the Restart programme for the long-term unemployed. There will also be more places on the Enterprise Allowance Scheme, and the number of Jobclubs is to be quadrupled.

The new Job Training Scheme will eventually give a quarter of a million people, most of them youngsters, vocational training leading to recognized qualifications. With these and other measures, this Government has developed its employment and training programmes on a scale which no other country can match. But the best hope of all for the unemployed is in the continuing vigour of the economy.

Since the early months of last year, there has been a further snag in manufacturing productivity. This continues the remarkable improvement in productivity growth achieved by British industry throughout the 1980s. During the 1960s, and again in the 1970s, growth in manufacturing productivity in the UK was the lowest of all the seven major industrial countries in the world. During the 1980s, our annual rate of growth of output per head in manufacturing has been the highest of all the seven major industrial countries.

The recorded current account of the balance of payments went into deficit in 1986 by around £1 billion. This followed a cumulative current account surplus of some £20 billion between 1979 and 1985. Some deterioration in our current account was inevitable in the face of a £4 billion loss of earnings on oil trade virtually overnight.

But the significance of this should not be exaggerated. The exchange rate adjustment that followed the fall in the oil price is already contributing to an improved non-oil trade performance. And earnings from the massive stock of net overseas assets we have acquired since 1979 will provide a continuing support to the current account in the years ahead. At well over £100 billion our net overseas assets are now greater than at any time since the War, and second only to those of Japan.

Looking ahead, I expect 1987 to be another year of balanced growth with low inflation. Total output is forecast to rise by 3 per cent, with exports and investment up by rather more than that. By then we will have registered the longest period of steady growth, at a rate approaching 3 per cent a year, that the British economy has known since the War.

Manufacturing industry, in particular, should do well in 1987. And with the non-oil economy set to grow at 3.5 per cent, there is every prospect of unemployment continuing to fall throughout the year. In last year's Budget speech I said that the outlook for jobs depended on a sustained improvement in the performance of business and industry. That sustained improvement in economic performance is now well under way.

Despite the strong growth in exports, it will inevitably take time for the full effect of the exchange rate adjustment to work through. The current account is thus likely to remain in deficit this year, by some £2.5 billion, around 0.5 per cent of GDP.

As I foreshadowed in the Autumn Statement, inflation may continue to edge up for a time, perhaps exceeding 4.5 per cent by the summer, before falling to 4 per cent by the end of the year. While short-term fluctuations are inescapable, it remains the Government's prime objective to keep inflation on an underlying downward trend.

Given the continuation of present policies in this country, the biggest risk to the excellent prospect I have outlined is that of a downturn in the world economy as a whole. There are still serious imbalances afflicting the three major economies — the United States on the one hand and Japan and Germany on the other — which, if not handled properly, could lead to a simultaneous downturn in all three. And this in turn could be exacerbated by renewed turmoil in the foreign exchange markets, whose tendency to overshoot is as notorious as it is damaging.

It was to address these dangers that the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of six major nations met in Paris last month, and agreed among other things to co-operate closely in fostering a period of exchange rate stability. In my Budget Speech last year, I said: "Provided we are not over-ambitious, I believe that the Plaza accord is something we can usefully build on." That is what we have now done, with Plaza II. But it would be idle to deny that the wider risks still remain.

Short of a world downturn, which can and must be avoided, British industry now has an outstanding opportunity, with growing markets at home and overseas, low inflation, rapidly growing productivity and greatly improved profitability.

Provided it can control its costs and maintain its present competitive advantage, and assuming the continuation of present policies, we can look forward to many more years of strong growth combined with low inflation.

STRATEGY

Reducing money growth

For its part, the Government will keep in place a sound and prudent financial framework. That means, as it has done since 1980, the medium-term financial strategy.

The central objective of the MTFS is gradually to reduce the growth of money GDP over the medium term, so as to squeeze inflation out of the system and ultimately to achieve price stability.

This requires monetary discipline buttressed by low public sector borrowing. The essential instrument of monetary policy must remain short-term interest rates. These will continue to be set in the light of monetary conditions as indicated principally by the growth of narrow and broad money and the behaviour of the exchange rate.

For narrow money, M0, the target range for next year will be 2 to 6 per cent, as foreshadowed in last year's MTFS. For broad money, however, as the Governor of the Bank of England cogently argued in his Loughborough lecture last October, it is probably wiser in current circumstances to eschew an explicit target altogether. But broad money will continue to be taken into account in assessing monetary conditions, as of course will be exchange rate.

I mentioned a moment ago the need to keep public sector borrowing low.

The final outturn for the public sector borrowing requirement last year, 1985-86, was just under £6 billion, equivalent to 1.5 per cent of GDP, the lowest level since 1970-71. In my Budget last year, faced with a massive loss of what now looks to be almost £7 billion of North Sea oil revenue, I none the less decided to hold the PSBR for this year, 1986-87, to £7 billion, or 1.75 per cent of GDP.

In the event, this year's PSBR looks like turning out at only £4 billion, or 1 per cent of GDP: the second successive year of significant undershoot.

This successful outcome is chiefly attributable to the remarkable buoyancy of non-oil tax revenues in general and of the corporation tax paid by an increasingly profitable business sector in particular.

Looking ahead, there is still a degree of uncertainty surrounding oil prices, and I have therefore stuck to the assumption I made last year that the North Sea price will average $15 a barrel. But it is clear that the increased flow of non-oil tax revenues, coupled with the prospective further growth of the economy in excess of the growth of public expenditure, puts the public finances in a very strong position.

I intend to keep it that way (Conservative cheers). Last year's MTFS indicated a PSBR for 1987-88 of £7 billion or 1.75 per cent of GDP; and, as the House will recall, I gave an assurance at the time of the Autumn Statement, when I announced a £4.75 billion increase in planned public spending in 1987-88, that on no account would I exceed that figure.

Indeed, I believe it is right to go below it. Since its inception in 1980, the MTFS has indicated a steadily declining path for the PSBR expressed as a percentage of GDP. We have now reached what I judge to be its appropriate destination: a PSBR of 1 per cent of GDP. My aim will be to keep it there over the years ahead. This will maintain a degree of fiscal prudence that, until this year, had been achieved on only two occasions since 1950.

Accordingly, I have decided to provide for a PSBR in 1987-88 of £4 billion.

Inevitably, this greatly diminishes the scope I have this year for reducing the burden of taxation, which of course remains a major objective of Government policy. But I am sure it is right to err on the side of prudence and caution, and to build a still firmer base for the future. That is the principle on which both I and my predecessor have consistently conducted economic policy these past eight years, and I see no reason to depart from it now.

Meanwhile, I would make one further observation, of a different nature. Economic arguments are seldom concluded, one way or another. This is chiefly because it is unusual for economic policies to be held in place long enough to provide sufficient evidence. But the 1980s have been different; and, as a result, one critically important economic argument has now been concluded, finally and decisively.

Throughout our period of office, our critics have consistently maintained not only that a fiscal stimulus would produce real economic growth, but that without an expansionary fiscal policy sustained growth was impossible.

They were wrong, and have been proved wrong. The British economy is now embarking on its seventh successive year of steady growth, at an average rate of getting on for 3 per cent a year. And during that time the PSBR, even if privatization proceeds are added back, has been deliberately and steadily reduced from a shade under 6 per cent of GDP to a little over 2 per cent.

Indeed, had I or my predecessor at any time heeded the advice of our so-called expansionist critics, the British economy would never have been in the unprecedentedly favourable position it is in today.

EXCHANGE

Abolition of controls

Before I turn to my proposals for changes in taxation, I have one other change of a specific nature to announce. In 1979, a few months after the present Government had first taken office, my predecessor announced the abolition of exchange controls, which had been in continuous operation ever since the outbreak of war in 1939. That bold action has, over the past seven-and-a-half years, proved wholly beneficial to the British economy: and I am glad to note that other European countries are now moving in the same direction.

But the Exchange Control Act remains on the Statute book. The time has come to repeal it. The necessary legislation will be contained in this year's Finance Bill.

I note that, in what was clearly intended to be a major speech in New York in September, the deputy leader of the Labour Party, declared that, and I quote: "The Labour Party has no intention of reintroducing statutory exchange controls." I am confident, therefore, that the proposal I have just made will be welcomed on all sides of the House.

I now turn to taxation. First, taxes on business. The fundamental reform of the corporation tax system which I introduced in 1984 came fully into effect last April. The new system has undoubtedly improved the quality of business investment decisions in Britain, and is also encouraging more overseas companies to set up here.

During the transition to the new system, companies were given advance notice of the main rate of Corporation Tax for the year ahead. This helped them in their forward planning, and I intend as far as possible to continue the practice of setting the rate in advance.

Accordingly, I can announce now that the main rate of corporation tax in 1987-88 will be unchanged at 35 per cent, lower than in any other major industrial nation, though the United States is now set to emulate us.

The low rate of Corporation Tax enables me to introduce a further simplification into the system. At present, while companies' capital gains are liable to Corporation Tax, the amount of such gains is first adjusted by a certain fraction so that the effective rate of tax is the same as that on capital gains made by individuals. This dates back to the time when the two rates of tax were far apart.

This is no longer the case: indeed, the Corporation Tax rate for small companies is now below the Capital Gains Tax rate.

I therefore propose that, from today, companies' capital gains be charged at the appropriate Corporation Tax rate, without adjustment, save for the indexation which applies to all post-1982 gains.

Hitherto, companies have not been allowed to set payments of advance corporation tax against their liability to tax on capital gains. This means that, where companies distribute capital gains as dividends, the gains are in effect taxed twice, once in the hands of the company and once in the hands of the shareholder.

I propose that, under the new system, companies should be able to set ACT payments against tax on capital gains. Taken together, these changes should yield £60 million in 1988-89.

I also have some further simplification and rationalization of the corporation tax system to announce.

At present, some companies established before 1965 do not have to pay their corporation tax until up to 21 months after the end of the period for which it is due, whereas companies established since 1965 have to pay their tax after nine months — and some building societies have to pay sooner still.

This difference in treatment cannot be justified. Moreover, it is open to an abuse which could put the timing of a substantial proportion of the total corporation tax yield at risk.

I therefore propose that all companies and building societies should be treated the same way, with all liable to pay corporation tax nine months after the end of the accounting period on which the tax is due. The change will be phased in, but I would expect it to yield around £100 million in 1988-89.

I also propose to legislate now to pave the way for a new method of collecting corporation tax, to be known as Pay and File. Under this system companies will estimate their tax liabilities themselves, and pay on the normal due date. Where it turns out that the initial payment was too low, the company will pay interest to the Revenue; where the initial payment was too high, the Revenue will pay interest to the company.

This new approach, which has already been generally welcomed by the business community, is part of a wider programme of streamlining tax collection, and will not come into force until the early 1990s. But by legislating now I am giving taxpayers and their advisers a firm basis on which to prepare for the new scheme.

While business and industry as a whole are doing well, the North Sea oil sector has inevitably been hard hit by last year's oil price collapse. The Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker) and I have followed closely the effects on North Sea producers and their suppliers. The industry itself is generally confident about the longer-term prospects; while as for the tax system, not only is it inherently price sensitive, but the companies themselves have repeatedly stressed their desire for stability.

However, in the light of the immediate problems, I introduced legislation last autumn to bring forward the repayment of over £300 million of advanced petroleum revenue tax.

This has already helped many of the smaller and medium-size companies faced with cash flow difficulties.

PETROL TAX

Two further reliefs

I now propose two further petroleum revenue tax reliefs. First, as from today companies may elect to have up to 10 per cent of the costs of developing certain new fields set against their petroleum revenue tax liabilities in existing fields, until such time as the income of those new fields exceeds the costs incurred. Second, there will be a new relief against PRT for spending on research into UK oil extraction that is not related to any particular field.

I believe that these carefully targeted changes will give a worthwhile measure of help to the North Sea oil sector.

Last year I put the Business Expansion Scheme on to a permanent footing. However, the present rules still produce too much end-year bunching of BES investments, and hence may crowd out some projects and lead to bad decisions on others. I propose therefore to permit someone who invests in the first half of the year to claim part of the relief against his previous year's income. This will make it easier for companies to raise BES finance throughout the year.

I have to set the 1988-89 car and fuel benefit scales for those with company cars. The car scale charges still fall well short of the true value of the benefit, and as last year I propose to increase them by 10 per cent. There will be no change in the fuel scales which, as already announced, will also be used for VAT purposes from 6 April.

Training and retraining are vital to a flexible and competitive economy.

Mr William Hamilton (Fife Central, Lab) rose on a point of order and amid loud Labour interruptions and laughter to say that Mr Lawson's parliamentary private secretary had gone off to get an amended version of the speech. He asked the Deputy Speaker (Mr Harold Walker) to suspend the sitting until the Chancellor had been properly . . . . (very loud Labour and Conservative interruptions).

The Deputy Speaker said that it was a convention that the Chancellor was listened to without interruption. What happened behind the chair was not part of the proceedings of the House.

Mr Lawson continued: At present, training financed by an employer that is related to the employee's current job is allowable against tax for the employer and imposes no tax burden on the employee. But an employer who is willing to finance the retraining of workers for future employment elsewhere may find that the cost of this is not allowable against tax, and the employee may find that he has received a taxable benefit. I propose to remove both these obstacles. This should help more workers to acquire new skills for new jobs (Labour cry of "What jobs?")

The past few years have seen a remarkable and welcome growth in the number of small businesses and the self-employed. The Government has done a great deal to lighten the burdens on this vitally important sector of the economy. But I am well aware that problems remain, not least in the field of VAT.

Accordingly, I asked Customs and Excise to issue a consultative document last autumn canvassing a number of changes. In the light of the responses to that document, I have four proposals to make.

Perhaps the biggest problem faced by the small businessman today is the trade customer who is late in paying his bills: so late, sometimes, that VAT becomes due before the bill has been paid. I can do nothing about late payment; but I can, I hope, do something about the VAT problem.

My first and most important proposal, therefore, is that, as from 1 October, businesses whose annual turnover is under £250,000, which means more than half of all traders registered for VAT, will be able to choose to account for VAT on the basis of cash paid and received. In other words, they will have no liability to pay VAT until they themselves have received the money from their customers (Conservative cheers). In addition to easing the cash-flow problems caused by late payers, this system will of course provide automatic VAT relief for bad debts.

I have to warn the House, however, that I cannot legally introduce this change without first obtaining a derogation from the European Community's Sixth VAT Directive. I am applying for the necessary derogation today. The House will note that the upper limit of £250,000 is considerably greater than the £100,000 suggested in the consultative document.

Second, I propose to give these businesses the option of accounting for VAT on an annual basis. Instead of making quarterly returns, they would make regular payments on account, and then file a single return at the end of the year. This option, which offers considerable streamlining, will be available next year.

Third, the period within which businesses must apply to be registered for VAT will be extended from 10 to 30 days.

Fourth, there will be changes to the rules for the special VAT schemes for retailers, and more small and medium-size businesses will be able to make use of the simpler schemes.

I believe that the changes I have outlined, and in particular the option to move to cash accounting, will be widely welcomed by the small business community. The cost will be £115 million in 1987-88 and £60 million in 1988-89.

In addition, I propose to increase the VAT threshold to £21,300, to keep it at the maximum permitted under existing European Community law.

In the light of the responses to the consultative document, I shall not be going ahead either with the withdrawal of the so-called standard method by which retailers calculate their gross takings for VAT, or with the compulsory deregistration of traders below the VAT threshold.

I have one further measure to help the small businessman, unrelated to VAT. I propose to increase the limit for capital gains tax retirement relief by 25 per cent, from £100,000 to £125,000.

In any ongoing programme of tax reduction and reform, where much still remains to be done, an essential element must always be the elimination of unintended or unjustified tax breaks, which cause rates of tax generally to be higher than they need to be. Accordingly, I have five proposals to make today to that end.

The first concerns VAT, and has already been the subject of extensive consultation. The House will be aware that a business that provides a service that is exempt from VAT cannot in turn deduct input tax on its purchases. But where the activities of a business are in part liable to VAT and in part exempt, the existing rules are excessively generous as to the amount of input tax that can be deducted; and this generosity is being exploited on a growing scale.

The rules must therefore be changed, and the changes, which I proposed to the House last December, will come into effect on April 1. There will be special arrangements to deal with the problem of brewers' tied houses. I am also taking this opportunity to exclude a significant number of small businesses from the scope of this provision. The yield from this change will be some £300 million in 1987-88 and £400 million in 1988-89.

Second, I propose to change the law so that companies in multinational groups which enjoy dual residence will no longer be able to secure tax relief twice on one and the same interest payment. Genuine trading companies will not be affected. This change, which will take effect on April 1, follows the similar action recently taken by the United States. It will yield £125 million in 1988-89.

Third, I propose to end the present excessively generous treatment of tax credit relief for foreign withholding tax paid on interest on bank loans. In future, banks will be able to offset this tax credit only against tax on the profit on the relevant loan, and not more widely. This will bring our rules broadly into line with those in most other countries. The change will apply from April 1 this year for new loans and from April 1 next year for existing loans. It will yield some £20 million in 1988-89.

Fourth, the tax treatment of Lloyd's syndicates as it applies to the Reinsurance to Close system is clearly unsatisfactory. I therefore propose to bring it into line with that of provisions for outstanding liabilities made by ordinary insurance companies and, indeed, of comparable provisions made by other financial traders. I have asked the Inland Revenue to consult urgently with Lloyd's about the details of the legislation. The new rules will first apply to premiums payable for the Lloyd's account which closes on December 31 this year.

Fifth, I propose to implement the Keith committee's recommendation that interest should be charged in the limited number of cases where an employer does not apply PAYE properly and a formal assessment has to be made to recover the tax. The change will take effect from April next year, and the yield in 1988-89 is estimated at £45 million.

I have one further proposal to make in the broad field of business and tax.

In my Budget last year I suggested the possibility of introducing a measure of tax relief for profit-related pay. I pointed then to two considerable advantages that might be expected to flow from arrangements which relate pay to profits. First, the workforce would have a more direct personal interest in the profits earned by the firm in which they work; and, second, there would be a greater degree of pay flexibility in the face of changing market conditions. Such flexibility is vital if, as a nation, we are to defeat the scourge of unemployment.

PROFIT PAY

Tax free limit to be doubled

Last July I presented a Green Paper on *Profit-Related Pay* in conjunction with the Secretary of State for Employment (Lord Young) and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Paul Channon). I now propose to introduce a scheme of tax relief broadly along the lines floated in the Green Paper.

My proposals depart from those in the Green Paper in one important respect. I am doubling the proportion of an employee's profit-related pay that will be tax free from a quarter to a half, and I am also increasing the upper limits on the relief. So for a married man on average earnings receiving 5 per cent of his pay in profit-related form, the tax relief will be equivalent to a penny off the basic rate of income tax. The cost will inevitably depend on take-up: it could be £50 million in 1988-89, building up to substantially more than that, as take-up grows, and as the proportion of an employee's pay which is profit-related rises.

Profit-related pay is no panacea. But then there are no panaceas. What it is is a tool to help British business gradually to overcome one of our biggest national handicaps: the nature and behaviour of our labour market. I am today challenging British management to take advantage of that tool and to make good use of it, for the good of their firm, their workforce and their country.

SAVINGS

Wider home ownership

I turn now to the taxation of savings.

A central theme and purpose of the Government's policies is the creation of a genuine popular capitalism.

That means wider home ownership, wider share ownership, and wider pension ownership. Over the past eight years, the Government has actively promoted the first two, and has now embarked on the third. Home ownership, above all through the council tenant's right to buy.

And share ownership, through the rapid growth of employee share schemes; through the massively successful privatization programme, where Britain has led the world; and most recently through the new Personal Equity Plans, which I announced in last year's Budget and which started up on January 1 this year. In the first month of the scheme, more than 2,000 people a day took out Personal Equity Plans, many of them first-time investors, as I had hoped.

We know that 63 per cent of households now own their own homes, 2½ million more than in 1979. However, there have been no official figures for the more explosive growth of share ownership in Britain over the past eight years. The Treasury and the Stock Exchange therefore jointly commissioned a major independent survey of individual shareholding in Britain. The results are now available. They show that there are now some 8½ million individual shareholders in this country — amounting to one fifth of the total adult population, and roughly three times the number there were in 1979.

And then there is wider pension ownership. Two years ago, the Government embarked on a major strategy to extend the coverage of private pension provision and to give individuals far more flexibility and choice in the way they provide for their retirement. We have already introduced a number of important new measures to that end, and the tax changes I am announcing today will complete the picture.

The cornerstone of the Government's pensions strategy is the introduction of an entirely new means of provision for retirement, developed by the Secretary of State for Social Services (Mr Norman Fowler). This is the personal pension, which will be launched at the beginning of next year, three months earlier than planned.

Personal pensions are an important new dimension of ownership. They will enable employees — if they so wish — to opt out of their employers' schemes and make their own arrangements, tailored to fit their own circumstances. And they will provide a new opportunity for the 10 million employees who at present do not belong to an occupational scheme to make provision of their own and, if they so wish, to contract out of Serps.

In my Budget last year I undertook to bring forward proposals to give personal pensions the same favourable tax treatment as is currently enjoyed by retirement annuities. These were duly published in a consultative document last November, and the necessary legislation will be contained in this year's Finance Bill.

In addition, to encourage a wider spread of occupational schemes, employers will be able to set up simplified schemes with the minimum of red tape.

This will be particularly welcome to many small employers who have been discouraged by the complexity and open-ended commitment of a full-blown final salary scheme. And there will be much greater scope for transferring between different types of pension scheme. Again, the Finance Bill will contain the necessary tax provisions.

Finally, I have decided to go beyond the proposals set out in the consultative document in one important respect. **Starting in October, I propose to allow members of occupational pension schemes to make additional voluntary contributions, with full tax relief, to a separate plan of their own choice instead of, as now, being restricted to plans within their employers' schemes.** They will be able to top their pensions up to the present tax approval limits.

The proposals I have outlined — along with the measures my Right Hon Friend (Mr Fowler) has already taken — will make it easier for people to take their pensions with them when they change jobs, which will be good both for labour mobility and for independence.

They will widen the range of choices people can make about their pensions; and will mean that in future individuals will have much more control over the way in which their own pension contributions are invested.

Taken as a whole, the changes we have made in the last two years have brought about a radical transformation in the ways people can provide for their retirement. There are new options for employers, and much greater freedom for individuals to plan their own pensions. This will lead to a further major extension of ownership, as people start to take advantage of the new opportunities.

But the generous tax treatment of pensions can be justified only if it is not abused.

PENSIONS

Some changes in relief

I propose, therefore, to introduce some limited changes to the present rules to restrict the excessive relief which can be obtained in some circumstances, particularly by a few very highly paid people. These will include a stricter definition of final salary and, for all arrangements entered into from today, an upper limit of £150,000 on the maximum permissible tax-free lump sum, coupled with more rigorous rules on how pension and lump-sum benefits can be calculated.

The cost of the overall pensions package will inevitably depend on take-up, but with that

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Lower tax rates help incentives, says Lawson

Continued from previous page

proviso is estimated at £65 million in 1988-89.

For Friendly Societies, I have decided to replace the existing tax-exempt life assurance limit based on the sum assured with a new limit based on annual premiums. I propose to set this at £100 a year, which will greatly increase the scope for the traditional societies to offer life policies to their members.

The tax-exempt limits governing sickness and accident benefits which trade unions provide for their members have not been changed since 1982. With effect from today, I propose to increase them to £3,000 for lump sums and £625 for annuities.

Finally, in this section, I turn to inheritance tax.

In my Budget last year I abolished the pernicious capital transfer tax on lifetime gifts between individuals, which was particularly damaging to the ownership and health of family business.

This year I propose to extend the same exemption from tax, on similar terms, to gifts involving settled property where there is an interest in possession. This will not, however, apply to discretionary trusts. These changes will be of particular benefit to family businesses and to heritage properties, both of which are often held in trust.

I also propose to make two minor changes affecting business assets.

First, holdings in companies quoted on the unlisted securities market will henceforth be treated for inheritance tax purposes in precisely the same way as holdings in companies with a full Stock Exchange listing. Second, business relief for minority holdings in excess of 25 per cent in unquoted companies will be increased from 30 per cent to 50 per cent.

The purpose of both these changes is to concentrate business relief more accurately on those assets which could provide funds to pay the tax only at the risk of damaging the business.

The abolition of the tax on lifetime giving was of the first importance to family businesses. But I remain conscious that it did little to help the smallest taxable estates, where the family home is often the principal asset.

I therefore propose to make a substantial increase in the threshold for inheritance tax, from £71,000 to £90,000, coupled with a simplification of the rate structure from seven rates to four. As a result of this change, the number of estates liable to inheritance tax will be cut by roughly a third. The cost will be £75 million in 1987-88 and £170 million in 1988-89.

Despite this substantial relief, however, and all the other much-needed reliefs that my predecessor and I have introduced since 1979, the House may be interested to learn that the expected yield of inheritance tax in 1987-88, at over £1 billion, is three times the yield of capital transfer tax in 1978-79, an increase in real terms of almost 50 per cent.

I now turn to the taxation of spending. I have already announced some important changes in value-added tax to prevent avoidance and to help the small businessman. I have no other proposals for major changes in VAT this year.

However, in the light of representations I have received, I have decided to extend slightly the VAT reliefs I introduced last year for certain aspects of charitable work.

I propose to relieve charities from VAT on certain welfare vehicles used by hospices to transport the terminally ill; on installing or adapting lavatory or bathroom facilities in charity homes for the disabled; on drugs and chemicals used by a charity in medical research; and on specialized location and identification equipment employed by mountain rescue and first aid services.

While on the subject of charitable giving, I should remind the House that this year's Finance Bill will increase the limit on donations to charity under the new payroll giving scheme, which starts next month, from £100 to £120 a year.

EXCISE

On-course betting

Next, the excise duties. I propose to maintain the revenue from the taxation of gambling, but to make some readjustment within the total. I therefore propose to increase the gaming machine licence duty by about a quarter, which will restore it in real terms to its 1982 level, when it was last increased; and to offset this by abolishing, from March 29, the tax on on-course betting. I am sure that this measure will be welcomed by the racing and bloodstock industry, as well as consoling those Hon members who have complained to me about the clash this year between Budget day and the Champion Hurdle.

In my Budget Statement last year, I undertook to introduce a tax differential in favour of unleaded petrol, to offset its higher production cost. I can now announce that the differential will be 3p a gallon.

This means that the pump price of unleaded petrol should be no higher than that of four-star leaded petrol. The change will take effect from 6 o'clock this evening.

In my 1985 Budget I announced the first stage in the process of increasing the rates of Vehicle Excise Duty on farmers' heavy lorries to bring them into line with the use they make of the public roads. I introduced the second stage in last year's Budget and propose to complete the process this year. I also propose to increase the rates of duty on trade licences and to rationalize the taxation of recovery vehicles.

I have no further changes to propose this year in the rates of excise duty. (Loud Conservative cheers).

INCOME TAX

Agreement on reduction

Finally, I turn to income tax.

There is now a worldwide consensus on the economic desirability of tax reform and tax reduction, and in particular the reduction of income tax.

This was demonstrated most recently by the various national policy declarations that emerged from last month's meeting of finance ministers from the major industrial nations.

Lower rates of tax sharpen up incentives and stimulate enterprise, which in turn is the only route to better economic performance.

And it is only by improving our economic performance that we will be able to afford to spend more on public services; only by improving our economic performance that we will be able to create jobs on the scale that we all want to see.

That is why, ever since we first took office in 1979, we have consistently sought to reduce the burden of income tax. We have cut the basic rate of tax from 33 per cent to 29 per cent and sharply reduced the punitive higher rates we inherited from the party opposite.

And we have increased the main tax allowances by 22 per cent more than inflation, taking almost 1½ million people out of income tax altogether.

For 1987-88 I propose to raise all the main thresholds and allowances by the statutory indexation factor of 3.7 per cent, rounded up. Thus the single person's allowance will rise by £90 to £2,425 and the married man's allowance up by £140 to £3,795.

The single age allowance will rise by £110 to £2,960 and the married age allowance by £170 to £4,675. The age allowance income limit becomes £9,800. I propose to raise the first, 40 per cent, higher-rate threshold by £700 to £17,900, in line with statutory indexation; but the threshold for the 45 per cent rate will go up by only £200 to £20,400. The other higher rate thresholds will remain unchanged.

I have two other changes in allowances to announce. First, I propose to give an additional increase in the age allowance for those aged 80 or over. For them, the increase will be double the amount due under statutory indexation, so that, for the very elderly, the single age allowance will rise by £220 to £3,070 and the married age allowance by £340 to £4,845. Around 400,000 taxpayers will benefit from this new measure, and up to 25,000 of them will be taken out of income tax altogether.

Second, the blind person's allowance has remained unchanged since 1981, when it was increased by £180 to its present level of £360. For 1987-88 I propose to increase it by a further £180, to £540.

Finally, I turn to the basic rate of income tax. This is the starting rate of income tax for everyone and the marginal rate for the overwhelming majority of taxpayers.

In my Budget speech last year I reaffirmed the aim, set out by my predecessor in 1979, to reduce the basic rate of income tax to no more than 25 per cent. That remains my firm objective.

However, given my decision to use the greater part of the fiscal scope I now have to reduce the public sector borrowing requirement, that goal cannot be achieved in this Budget. I can, however, take a further step towards it, as I did last year.

I am therefore reducing the basic rate of income tax by 2p, to 27 per cent. This reduction, which will benefit every taxpayer in the land, will be worth more than £3 a week to a man on average earnings.

There will, of course, be a consequential reduction in the rate of advance corporation tax, and — as last year — I also propose a corresponding cut in the small companies' rate of corporation tax from 29 per cent to 27 per cent. Taken together with the income tax change, this will mean a significant reduction in the tax burden on small businesses, which are so important for future growth and jobs.

INDEX COST

Measures total £2.5bn

The income tax changes I have just announced will take effect under PAYE on the first pay day after May 17 (loud Labour laughter and shouts of: "June election".) They will cost a little more than £2 billion in 1987-88 over and above the cost of statutory indexation.

The total cost of all the measures in this year's Budget, again on an indexed basis, is a little over £2.5 billion.

In this Budget I have reaffirmed the prudent policies which, despite a year-long coal strike followed by a collapse in the oil price, have given us the strongest economy we have known since the War.

After an Autumn Statement which substantially increased public spending in priority areas, I have once again cut the basic rate of income tax: a cut which the party opposite are pledged to reverse, if they are given the chance — which they will not be. And I have done this while sharply reducing public borrowing; a combination that has eluded successive governments for decades.

This is a Budget built on success, and a Budget for success. I commend it to the House.

The Chancellor, who sat down to loud Conservative cheers and the waving of order papers, spoke for 59 minutes.

Kinnock claims national need for efficiency ignored

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, responding to the Chancellor's Budget speech, said Mr Lawson had made yet another record-breaking short speech and MPs would be grateful for the fact that he had been economical with words and that he was able to produce such a remarkable anti-climax towards the end of his speech.

He may have lost his place in the speech and, with this Budget, he had lost his place in history. It had been anticipated that this would be a bribes Budget and that, indeed, was what it was.

It was a Budget that almost entirely ignored the national need for efficiency in the production of wealth and the national demand for fairness in

MPs grateful for Lawson's economy with words

the distribution of wealth. It was a Budget that had little to do with the general good and everything to do with the general election.

In its whole approach to the country's problems, it was also a Budget which starkly defined the differences between the values and priorities of the Government and the values and priorites of the British people as they expressed them whenever they were asked.

Those priorities — fighting unemployment, helping the old and weak and reuniting the country — were heard all over the country, except on the Government front bench.

The Government had chosen to make a Budget which produced a short-term consumer spurt but the Opposition and the British people wanted long-term investment to build the foundations for future strength.

The Government chose across-board cuts in taxation. The Opposition and the British people wanted across-the-nation cuts in unemployment.

The Chancellor had again done absolutely nothing at all to mount any form of serious attack on the three million level of unemployment. All he did was to continue with the Government's efforts to beautify the figures of unemployment, while doing nothing to deal with the facts of unemployment.

There were elements in his speech with which the Opposition agreed, including the simplification and improvement in the Business Expansion Scheme and the changes in corporation tax.

The improvements in tax incentives to encourage training were also welcome, although Mr Lawson might have felt disposed to go rather further, given the very sad and inadequate record of investment in training.

The changes in the system of payment and administration of VAT for small businesses were particularly welcome. But many in small businesses, the vast majority of whom were entirely reputable people, would want Mr Lawson to ensure that there was not an abuse of these changes which would disadvantage the honest traders and people in small production.

The reliefs on the VAT liabilities of charities were welcome, as were the subsidies to ensure against disadvantaged prices for non-leaded oil.

The Opposition commended all these measures and would give them an easy passage.

Mr Lawson had taken upon himself in the Budget to make an announcement about the abolition of the Exchange Control Act. That was unlikely to be resisted since it was an academic exercise.

An incoming Labour Government had a much better system for encouraging the return of much needed capital investment.

The repatriation scheme which the Labour Party had proposed and would implement had received accolades from many independent observers.

It would provide ready resources to stimulate the kind of investment which this country desperately needed, so much of which it had lost as a consequence of the huge increase of outflow of capital investment since 1979. That had been a loss of something of the region of £17 billion in the last eight years.

Many of them must have felt a certain familiarity with the Tory themes and the tactics with which the Chancellor was seeking to implement them.

They recalled the dilution of the economy in 1983 before the election of 1983 and then the subsequent action of this Chancellor to reverse that very modest expansion.

His actions then were part of the Tory tradition, stretching back from Reginald Maudling and Heathcoat Amory to the chancellorship of R A Butler, the father of the congenital Conservative practice of making concessions before the election and, after successfully getting votes, taking the concessions back.

In April 1955, R A Butler had taken 9d off the standard rate of income tax and raised tax thresholds. Just three months later, after an election, he introduced special measures in October. He brought in a special emergency Budget in order to reverse all the tax changes.

They would recall him saying that the nation should not drop back into easy evenings with port wine and over-ripe pheasant. "My mother and father gave up both wine and over-ripe pheasant. They even gave up dressing for dinner, as I recall."

It had been go for consumers and stop for investment. There had been talk of recovery and prudence as if the Budget was a carefully compiled climax to six years of planning by the Government.

The trouble for the Government was that the facts belied the claims of prudence and recovery. Just three months earlier the Chancellor had said he doubted very much whether there would be much scope for reductions in taxation in the next year's Budget. He had absolutely meant it. It had not been part of a disinformation campaign to persuade people there was nothing much coming through so that there would be delight when something did come through.

It had been the confession of a man who knew that unplanned public expenditure, over-runs, and an on-going balance of payments deficit brought about

Budget has everything to do with election

by his mismanagement of both interest rates and exchange rates, were catching up with him.

There had been no talk then of Lucky Lawson. That had been only 12 weeks ago. It was also a fact that after nearly eight years of Conservative rule, the economy was still not back to the performance standards the Government had inherited in 1979.

That was nearly eight years of oil-rich Conservative rule with £60,000 million of net oil revenues, all to the advantage of savings on the balance of payments, because we were an oil producing, oil exporting country.

With all of those advantages the Government had still blown all the great opportunities that went with the oil rigs.

Manufacturing investment was 20 per cent lower than in 1979. A manufacturing trade surplus of £2,700 million which the Government inherited in 1979 had been turned this year into a manufacturing trade deficit running towards £7,300 million, even on the Chancellor's own admission.

In those years, manufacturing exports had gone up by 15 per cent, but manufacturing imports had gone up 48 per cent in volume over the same period.

The nation heard claims of a great productivity surge under this Government, unbeatable and unrivalled by other countries. What the Chancellor forgot to say was the starting point for his figures. He also forgot to say how that productivity surge had been achieved — by many fewer people making many fewer things.

There were 28 per cent fewer people making 4 per cent fewer things because manufacturing output in Britain was still, in 1987, 4 per cent lower than it had been in 1979.

The tax burden as a proportion of national income was still, in 1987, 18 per cent greater than it had been under the last Labour government. As a consequence of the changes now proposed by the Chancellor, that figure would not change significantly.

To bring down the level of tax burden to the 1979 level, the Government would have to have cut taxes by £15,000 million. The tax burden on the average household under this so-called tax-cutting Government, had gone up by 10 per cent. In order to bring that tax burden down to the 1979 level, the Government would have had to cut the standard rate of tax to 23.5p.

The Government had shattered every one of its central promises (Labour cheers). The Government had never practised what it preached, except to the top 10 per cent of earners.

For the other 90 per cent, national insurance contributions, rates rises and VAT increases all ensured that they kept less of their incomes, post-tax, than they had in 1979.

The Government was not only the biggest taxer in British history, but the biggest job destroyer (loud Labour cheers and Conservative protests). After eight years, there was more poverty, more unemployment, higher taxes, and more crime, from the government of law and order (Labour cheers).

Into the middle of all that, Mr Lawson had brought a Budget that completely ignored all those realities and returned only to tax cuts which, to his surprise, he was now able to offer. Lucky Lawson — for him. But was it lucky for the country?

First, the Chancellor had received resources from privatization — what the Earl of Stockton had called the family silver. The windfall also came from an increase in the corporate tax take.

The awful irony was that consumption would be consumption of imported finished goods. "So, here we have a Chancellor who is disabling investment effort in this country while increasing consumption of our competitors' goods — consumption which provides the third source of revenue in this give-away Budget: VAT on imported manufactured goods, bought and paid for on tick."

The country was entering its biggest-ever credit expansion. Household debt had doubled in seven years. It had been the biggest source of what expansion there had been in the economy.

"Instead of spraying Britain with across-the-board tax cuts, the Chancellor should have used the funds to cure unemployment, mitigate poverty, stimulate investment, to build houses and develop industry, to invest in education and encourage and improve training and research."

He could have restored the lower tax band and helped particularly those on low incomes to be eased into paying tax. He could have used his resources to start making up the losses the Government had inflicted on pensioners by breaking the link between average earnings and pensions.



Mr Neil Kinnock: "Little to do with national good and everything to do with election".

For £3 billion the Chancellor could have got 90,000 new houses, or a quarter of a million repaired houses. He could have got 1.5 million nursery school places or 210,000 extra further education places.

He could have got treatment for three million hospital cases or given every pensioner an

Real priority is to fight unemployment

extra £6 a week. He need not have let them go through another winter in which they had to see what the temperature was before they knew they could pay their bills.

The £3 billion could have generated 300,00 jobs. But the tax cuts would at best secure another 80,000 jobs over two years. "What a waste of opportunities and resources, especially as the people strongly prefer investment in jobs, in economic strength and in modern social, health and education provision.

"They show far more prudence and patriotism than either the Chancellor or the Prime Minister. That is why, despite the pre-election largesse, the give-away, despite the bribes, the Chancellor with this Budget invites not the celebration of the British people but their contempt."

Sir Julian Ridsdale (Harwich, C) said that the country knew that it was better with the Conservatives and, when the time came, he was sure the country would keep it that way. In his heart of hearts, Mr Kinnock also knew it. Mr Kinnock's criticism had reminded him of a man whistling to keep up his courage.

The only snag was that he had to keep on whistling for rather a long time. Last year's prudent budget had been the background to the rosy picture they now found themselves in. Unemployment had been falling for five months and was lower than it had been a year ago, but there had not been a word of praise from Mr Kinnock.

He hoped that because of today's announcements there would be a fall in mortgage rates and interest rates. Small businesses were taking off and the Chancellor had encouraged them.

Pensioners would never forget the runaway inflation under Labour. It would be caused again by the policies Mr Kinnock was trying to sell to the country today. There could not be a general election too soon to enable the reform of local government finance.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, SNP) said that the Budget reminded him of an exercise in an accountancy exam rather than something dealing with the reality of life in the UK. There was no doubt that the kitty used for income tax relief had been amassed by persistent reductions in the quality of life and in services and amenities.

The picture of a country returning from a depressed state into affluence was a lot of nonsense for most people. The Chancellor had said that unemployment was falling. The figures were certainly falling but that was due to the methods of calculation being changed a number of times and to the institution of training schemes.

The income tax reliefs should have been used for taking the lower paid out of the tax system altogether. The Chancellor had claimed the Budget was built on success, but it was built mainly on the misery of the unemployed.

Sir Kenneth Lewis (Stamford and Spalding, C) said that this had not been as expansive a Budget as some people expected. He did not think anybody could say that this was an election-bribing Budget. It was a reasonably good Budget with half an eye on reality and half an eye on the general election.

The Budget should be taken together with the Autumn Statement, which was the great give-away, when the Chancellor surprised many of his colleagues by pushing several billion into the economy.

Mr Lawson had a new image today. He was the cautious Chancellor. If he had allowed the PSBR to rise to £5 billion, they would have had another billion available for increases in spending on higher education and on training. Screwing PSBR down to £4 billion was being over-cautious.

With just a modest increase in excise duty, they could have had a little bit to spend on other things. "It is a responsible budget. I do not think it is a vote-seeking budget. I doubt if the election will be about this budget."

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport East, Lab) regretted that the Budget contained nothing for the ordinary pensioner, nor for the family receiving child allowance. Each of these payments had declined markedly since 1979. "In this sense, the Chancellor of the Exchequer fluffed his opportunity."

Mr Lawson had produced a so-called popular Budget to try to influence the general election result while, at the same time, trying to maintain a veneer of prudence.

If opinion polls were any guide, most people believed that

Labour welcomes corporation tax changes

handouts, such as had been seen this afternoon, would be better used for creating jobs and improvements in social services. The Government had not tackled this great social evil.

The latest report was that the Government was proposing to drop publication of the numbers of people on the unemployment register. That had now been denied by Lord Young (Secretary of State for Employment). But as Mandy Rice-Davies might have said: "He would, wouldn't he?"

It was time that credibility was restored to the unemployment figures. Then, Parliament could better assess how the Budget and other policies related to them.

The devil found work for idle hands. When shop windows were full of goods and so many people had time on their hands, the tendency towards crime was greatly increased — hence Monday's crime figures.

Alongside the consumer boom Britain's manufacturing base was still 15 per cent below its 1979 level.

Central government grants to local authorities had been cut from 59.6 per cent in 1979-80 to 44.31 per cent in 1986-87. Councils struggled manfully to maintain services and every day he got evidence of this from Newport and Gwent councils.

"Overall, Britain has become a shabby society. Private affluence and public squalour — that is the state of Thatcherite Britain in 1987."

This Government should concentrate on building a fairer society and seek to eliminate the North-South divide and the division between the haves and have nots. This Budget was essentially about cutting taxes, and what was the justification for that when schools badly needed textbooks and equipment and when queues for the National Health Service seemed to stretch into eternity?

"These problems will not be solved through an appeal to private greed and it is by this standard that this Budget is a failure."

Mr Michael Shersby (Uxbridge, C) said that this was an excellent Budget despite the gloomy view shown by the Opposition.

"This is a Budget which confirms the continuing success of the Government's economic policies. It consolidates the achievements of the Chancellor in encouraging industry and commerce and it will stimulate confidence and the creation of more jobs."

It gave a welcome boost to industrial training and created a climate in which training would bring more solid job opportunities.

He welcomed, too, the VAT reforms which would help small

Moves on VAT are deemed particularly useful

businesses and large ones, too. He was particularly pleased about the announcement that VAT would not have to be paid until bills had been paid. This would help small firms with their cash-flow problems caused by slow payers.

He welcomed the tax relief on performance-related pay as this would forge a closer link between the profits of enterprises and the pay of employees.

The Opposition might criticize the proposals for an increase in the limits for inheritance tax. But they would be welcomed particularly by family business built up by people in his own constituency who wanted their children and grandchildren to become involved in them.

"The British people have waited a long time for this happy day when there is no increase in vehicle excise duty, no increase in tax on alcohol or tobacco, and at last the British people can feel they are getting some relief from the taxation of these old favourites by this Chancellor. This is a lucky day for the British people.

"The Chancellor has demonstrated himself as a compassionate and listening Chancellor. He has listened to the representations of many MPs about the blind allowance and he has taken account of the need to increase the age allowance and added to the exemptions for charges in relation to VAT."

Who would have thought in 1979, with the standard rate of income tax at 35p in the pound, that in 1987 it would be down to 27p? And about time. That was welcome, as it would put £3 a week into the pocket of the average industrial worker.

Among those who would benefit would be the nurses, a group everyone wanted to help. Their tax had been reduced quickly, a useful interim boost to their income, pending the review of nurses pay now underway.

From his remarks Mr Kinnock appeared a sour and disappointed man. In talking of repatriating capital to this country he had said nothing about inward investment. It was a Budget consolidating eight years of Conservative power which would tackle the main problems.

Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L) said there had been little sign of enthusiasm when the Chancellor had sat down. Had he really lost a page of his speech? It seemed as if his supporters had been led to expect something more which had not actually arrived.

The Budget represented the aspirations of the Conservative politicians looking to the election rather than the aspirations of the British people looking to the Government to face up to its problems.

It was a Budget for deepening inequality, aggravated by eight years of Conservative rule. There was nothing in it for the unemployed, the poor, the low paid and nothing for the regions or for manufacturing industry.

It was an opportunity missed because the Chancellor had considerable room for manoeuvre. Yet he had concentrated

Facts belie claims of prudence and recovery

nearly all resources on keeping down the public sector borrowing requirement to a record low level to cut the standard rate of income tax.

It was as if the Budget had been targeted to a synthetic, standard, Conservative Central Office-style voter. It had nothing to do with the national interest and the arguments of the Government in support of its claims simply did not add up.

The Chancellor had not increased customs and excise duties, but most people knew that meant that when he did get around to doing so later the increases would be just that much more painful. People would not accept that they had got away with it indefinitely.

He did not agree with Mr Lawson's economic analysis or his policy objectives but he did show considerable attention to detail on many aspects of reforms which were worthwhile and welcome. For example, the extension of profit sharing was very close to the Alliance's heart and he welcomed it.

The 5p reduction on unleaded petrol was also very welcome, not least because the leaders of the Alliance would be travelling the country during the election campaign in a bus driven by that fuel. The Alliance therefore appreciated the Chancellor's contribution to its election expenses.

The extension of the personal pension provisions was also welcome because it would introduce a degree of portability and flexibility which would help mobility.

There were two aspects of the Budget which would be welcomed in Scotland. First, the proposed changes in the allowances for oil fields, although

Nearly eight years of oil-rich Tory rule

they fell a long way short of what would be necessary to stop the haemorrhage of jobs taking place. He remained to be convinced that it would bring in sufficient additional projects to stop job losses.

Second, the non-indexation of custom and excise duties would please the Scotch whisky industry, although it would have preferred a statutory maturation allowance because of the high cost of holding stocks for three years while they matured.

The whole ethos surrounding Budget day was rather nonsensical and he wondered whether the ritual served any great purpose. But the Budget speech did give an indication of the Government's priorities and these, regrettably, had not changed.

People knew that this government was not going to change course, so if they wanted a change in policies they had to make sure they threw this government out. The Alliance looked forward eagerly to the opportunity of doing so in the very near future.

This Budget was quite in accord with the Government's record but it did not offer hope to the poor or the jobless or the regions or nations of the UK. It might please the City, but Conservative MPs might find it did not please their constituents.

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Reaction is mixed across the income spectrum

By Howard Foster and Roland Rudd

The Times has interviewed several families within a wide spectrum of incomes to see how the Budget changes have affected them.

Peter Greenberg, aged 41, is a finance director with a West End company. He is married to Lizanne and they have three children, aged four, five and eight.

His salary is £26,000 and he is provided with an 1800cc Audi company car. Private medical care is available from his company.

The Greenbergs have a £25,000 mortgage on their home in Guildford, Surrey, but a major outgoing is the cost of private school fees, currently about £4,000 a year but soon to increase when the youngest child goes to school.

The Greenbergs pay minimal life insurance premiums. Neither smokes and alcohol consumption is "very moderate".

The terms of the Budget were greeted with a mixture of relief and disappointment by the Greenbergs.

"Any reduction in in tax is welcome", Mrs Greenberg said. "Our impression is that perhaps the interest rates will come down soon and that that will bring a reduction in the mortgage rate, which everybody will be happy to see."

"There was no apparent change in the tax structure for company cars, which helps. We were a bit afraid that we might have to pay more for the company car.

"We are a bit sorry to see that there has been no change in family allowances."

The Greenbergs believe that the effect of seeing the benefits in the pay packet of the tax reductions in May could well hint at a June election.

Christopher Brockley, a dental surgeon with his own practice, is earning just over £20,000. His wife Sally is a part-time receptionist who earns the maximum amount allowed before tax.

The Brockleys, who live in Rowhook, West Sussex, have four children. Justin, aged 14, is at Ardingly College, a public school near Haywoods Heath. Kyle, aged 11, is at another private school. Their combined fees are over £10,000 a year.

"This is obviously not an election Budget", was Mr Brockley's first reaction. "I am glad that the married man's allowance has gone up, but quite honestly it's not enough.

"I am particularly disappointed by the Chancellor's decision not to raise mortgage tax relief."

Mrs Brockley said: "The 2p cut in the basic rate of income tax is good news. It should stimulate businesses and generate more jobs.

"I think it's good to have a Budget which doesn't hammer drinks, although I would have been quite happy to see the price of cigarettes increased."



The Greenberg family from Guildford, Surrey, (above) who have mixed feelings about the tax changes; the Waltons (below), from Selsey, West Sussex, whose financial position is unchanged, and Mr Charles Rifkind, who expects a June election.

Property developer lukewarm at changes

Charles Rifkind, aged 29, is managing director of a London property development company. His annual earnings vary enormously, but are well in excess of £40,000 a year.

His wife, Simone, earns £20,000 a year as a designer of wallpaper and fabrics.

Mr Rifkind's company car is a 2.8-litre Mercedes. His mortgage on his central London home is £50,000.

Other major outgoings are private school fees for two children of £12,000 a year. Neither husband nor his wife smokes or drinks.

Mr Rifkind's first reaction to the Budget was that it pointed to a June election.

"It really has very little significance for my family. I think perhaps that I shall be about £3 a week up on my take-home salary."

"I believe that we are now heading for an election in June because the changes Mr Lawson has spoken about can be effected very quickly. The benefit will be seen very soon."

"I was hoping to see changes in stamp duty and capital gains tax. In fact, there has been no alteration in the one and so far as CGT is concerned, it goes up by 5 per cent. It makes no difference to my company and our property dealings."

"This could have been a good Budget but, in fact, it rather takes the wind out of one's sails.

"It leaves one with rather an empty feeling except for the belief in a poll soon. I was expecting some change in the level of mortgage relief but that did not materialize."

No change for family living on benefits

Harry Walton, aged 34, is an unemployed seismic surveyor currently retraining as a microcompuier engineer.

Mr Walton and wife Ruth live in Selsey, West Sussex, and have two children, aged eight and eight months.

Their income of £121.50 a week is made up of a Manpower Services Commission grant, supplementary benefit and child benefit.

Repayments of £220 a month on a mortgage of £30,000 are met through supplementary benefit.

The Waltons have no savings and run an eight-year-old Ford Cortina. Neither smokes and their indulgences extend to occasional drinks in pubs and bottles of Martini.

Changes in tax and tax thresholds bring no change in the Waltons' standard of living. Mrs Walton, aged 29, had been hoping for some increase in child benefit but none was forthcoming.

"I think this Budget is designed to bring about an election fairly soon," she said. "It is all very well for the Chancellor to reduce tax on unleaded petrol. We are in favour of that, but it would cost too much to convert.

"There has been no change in the road fund licence, which is good. We have enough trouble trying to make ends meet without extra outgoings.

"The real benefits would only seem to be there when my husband gets back in work. We hope that it will be soon. Whether the Budget has any effect on overall unemployment levels remains to be seen."

Two causes for celebration

Karen Searl, aged 18, is a secretary earning £7,250 at Lawnstone Ltd, a venture capital business in Victoria, London.

She lives with her parents at Biggin Hill, Kent, and pays £65 rent a month.

Her father is a bank manager and her mother works in the accounts department at J Sainsbury.

Karen was hoping to buy a flat with her boyfriend as soon as possible. But says she will have to think twice about it now there is no rise in morgage tax relief.

"We had really pinned our hopes on the Chancellor being more generous. I mean we heard all this business about a give-away Budget and we don't seem to have ended up with that much.

"If it is a give-away Budget who has he given it away to?

"What about those who are unemployed? I think they need helping as much as business. All this capital gains tax relief is all right for some but it certainly doesn't benefit them — or me, come to think of it.

"Still, if it helps my boss, maybe he will give me a rise!"

But it was not all gloom and doom for Karen. As a regular smoker and drinker, she was delighted that there was no rise in duty on her favourite indulgences.

"I had worked out that each week I spend at least £20 on booze and between £10-£15 on fags. My boyfriend had warned me that they would increase the price on both. So you can imagine how pleased I was when I found out there was no change.

"To tell you the truth I think I might pop down to the local tonight for a little celebration. Still what they give you with one hand they always take away with the other."

However, Karen was quite pleased by the 2p cut in the basic rate of income tax.

"I suppose I shouldn't grumble too much. Tax cuts can't be bad. Although 2p doesn't seem much, particularly on my salary. Still, they said they were going to cut tax and they have."

Overall, Karen had hoped for more. "I am disappointed and still not sure who to vote for."



Karen Searl, who was planning a celebration drink.

What the tax changes will mean

MARRIED COUPLE, NONWORKING WIFE, £20,000 MORTGAGE

	Annual income £12,000		£17,000		£25,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	12,000	12,000	17,000	17,000	25,000	25,000
Less tax allowances	3,795	3,655	3,795	3,655	3,795	3,655
Mortgage interest relief*	2,450	2,600	2,450	2,600	2,450	2,600
Taxable income	5,755	5,745	10,755	10,745	18,755	18,745
Tax payable	1,554	1,666	2,904	3,116	5,175	5,606
N.I. contributions	1,080	1,080	1,334	1,334	1,334	1,334
TOTAL NET INCOME	9,366	9,254	12,762	12,550	18,491	18,060

* Mortgage interest is calculated at 12¼ per cent for 1987-88 (13 per cent for 1986-87).

MARRIED COUPLE, NONWORKING WIFE, £30,000 MORTGAGE

	Annual income £20,000		£30,000		£40,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	20,000	20,000	30,000	30,000	40,000	40,000
Less tax allowances	3,795	3,655	3,795	3,655	3,795	3,655
Mortgage interest relief*	3,675	3,900	3,675	3,900	3,675	3,900
Taxable income	12,530	12,455	22,530	22,445	32,530	32,445
Tax payable	3,383	3,609	6,791	7,198	11,648	12,050
N.I. contributions	1,334	1,334	1,334	1,334	1,334	1,334
TOTAL NET INCOME	15,283	15,057	21,875	21,468	27,018	26,616

* Mortgage interest is calculated at 12¼ per cent for 1987/88, 13 per cent for 1986/87.

COUPLE OVER 65, NO MORTGAGE

	Annual income £7,500		£10,000		£15,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	7,500	7,500	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
Less tax allowances	4,695	4,505	4,541	4,105	3,794	3,655
Taxable income	2,825	2,995	5,459	5,895	11,206	11,345
Tax payable	763	869	1,474	1,710	3,026	3,290
TOTAL NET INCOME	6,737	6,631	8,526	8,290	11,974	11,710

* This is reduced by £2 for every £3 of income over £9,400 (1986-87), £ 9,800 (1987-88) down to married man's relief level.

These figures do not take account of the tax free increase in retirement benefits.

SINGLE PERSON, £10,000 MORTGAGE

	Annual income £6,000		£10,000		£15,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	6,000	6,000	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
Less tax allowances	2,425	2,335	2,425	2,335	2,425	2,335
Mortgage interest relief*	1,225	1,300	1,225	1,300	1,225	1,300
Taxable income	2,350	2,365	6,350	6,365	11,350	11,365
Tax payable	634	686	1,715	1,846	3,065	3,296
N.I. contributions	540	540	900	900	1,334	1,334
TOTAL NET INCOME	4,826	4,774	7,385	7,254	10,601	10,370

* Mortgage interest is calculated at 12¼ per cent for 1987-88 (13 per cent for 1986-87).

SINGLE PERSON, £15,000 MORTGAGE

	Annual income £6,000		£10,000		£15,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	6,000	6,000	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
Less tax allowances	2,425	2,335	2,425	2,335	2,425	2,335
Mortgage interest relief*	1,837	1,950	1,837	1,950	1,837	1,950
Taxable income	1,738	1,715	5,738	5,715	10,738	10,715
Tax payable	469	497	1,549	1,657	2,899	3,107
N.I. contributions	540	540	900	900	1,334	1,334
TOTAL NET INCOME	4,991	4,963	7,551	7,443	10,767	10,559

* Mortgage interest is calculated at 12¼ per cent for 1987-88 (13 per cent for 1986-87).

SINGLE PERSON, £20,000 MORTGAGE

	Annual income £6,000		£10,000		£15,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	6,000	6,000	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
Less tax allowances	2,425	2,335	2,425	2,335	2,425	2,335
Mortgage interest relief*	2,450	2,600	2,450	2,600	2,450	2,600
Taxable income	1,125	1,065	5,125	5,065	10,125	10,065
Tax payable	304	309	1,384	1,469	2,734	2,919
N.I. contributions	540	540	900	900	1,334	1,334
TOTAL NET INCOME	5,156	5,151	7,716	7,631	10,932	10,747

* Mortgage interest is calculated at 12¼ per cent

SINGLE PARENT, THREE CHILDREN, £10,000 MORTGAGE

	Annual income £7,500		£10,000		£15,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	7,500	7,500	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000
Less tax allowances	3,795	3,655	3,795	3,655	3,795	3,655
Mortgage interest relief*	1,225	1,300	1,225	1,300	1,225	1,300
Taxable income	2,480	2,545	4,980	5,045	9,980	10,045
Tax payable	670	738	1,345	1,463	2,695	2,913
N.I. contributions	675	675	900	900	1,334	1,334
NET INCOME	6,155	6,087	7,755	7,637	10,971	10,753
Plus child benefit	1,131	1,092	1,131	1,092	1,131	1,092
TOTAL NET INCOME	7,286	7,179	8,886	8,729	12,102	11,845

* These figures could be lower/higher if part of the income is maintenance payments. Mortgage interest calculated at 12¼ per cent (13 per cent for 1986-87).

MARRIED COUPLE, WORKING WIFE, TWO CHILDREN £20,000 MORTGAGE

	Joint Annual Incomes £14,000		£17,500		£20,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	14,000	14,000	17,500	17,500	20,000	20,000
Less tax allowances	6,220	5,990	6,220	5,990	6,220	5,990
Mortgage interest relief*	2,450	2,600	2,450	2,600	2,450	2,600
Taxable income	5,330	5,410	8,830	8,910	11,330	11,410
Tax payable	1,439	1,569	2,384	2,584	3,059	3,369
N.I. contributions †	1,260	1,260	1,575	1,575	1,800	1,800
NET INCOME	11,301	11,171	13,541	13,341	15,141	14,891
Plus child benefit	754	728	754	728	754	728
TOTAL NET INCOME	12,055	11,899	14,295	14,069	15,895	15,619

* Mortgage interest calculated at 12¼ per cent for 1987-88, (13 per cent for 1986-87). † These figures could be lower, depending on the level of wife's earnings and whether she pays full N.I. contributions.

MARRIED COUPLE, WORKING WIFE, TWO CHILDREN £25,000 MORTGAGE

	Joint Annual Incomes £14,000		£17,500		£20,000	
	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87	1987-88	1986-87
	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME	14,000	14,000	17,500	17,500	20,000	20,000
Less tax allowances	6,220	5,990	6,220	5,990	6,220	5,990
Mortgage interest relief*	3,062	3,250	3,062	3,250	3,062	3,250
Taxable income	4,718	4,760	8,218	8,260	10,718	10,760
Tax payable	1,274	1,380	2,219	2,395	2,894	3,120
N.I. contributions †	1,260	1,260	1,575	1,575	1,800	1,800
NET INCOME	11,466	11,380	13,706	13,530	15,306	15,080
Plus child benefit	754	728	754	728	754	728
TOTAL NET INCOME	12,220	12,088	14,460	14,258	16,060	15,808

* Mortgage interest calculated at 12¼ per cent for 1987/88, 13 percent for 1986/87. † These figures could be lower, depending on the level of wife's earnings and whether she pays full N.I. contributions.

Will the Budget lead to your next Finance Act?

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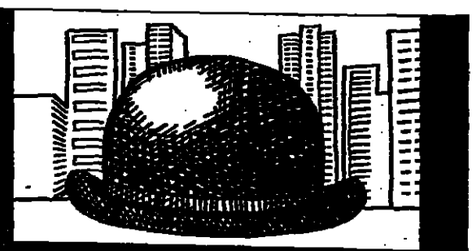
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